FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

19 SEPTEMBER 1984

GCC Ministers' Meeting in Saudi Arabia

At the first session of their meeting in the southern town of Abha, GCC foreign and defense ministers discussed a military working paper concerning the establishment of a joint defense policy, GCC Secretary General 'Abdallah Bisharah stated afterward in remarks reported by Riyadh radio.

Iran-Iraq

Syrian Defense Minister Mustafa Talas stated that the Iran-Iraq war will "immediately end" if Iraq announces the "resuscitation" of the 1978 Iraq-Syria unity agreement, according to Doha radio citing Talas' statement in the Lebanese magazine *AL-SAYYAD*. He added that Syria has interceded with Iran to prevent the "expansion" of fighting and that Iran cannot fight Syria and Iraq together. According to Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio, Talas admitted during this interview that Israel had supplied Iran with military equipment in a $25 million-deal concluded through a "third party."

In a separate development, Iraq has mined the area surrounding Khark Island without publicly announcing the move, according to Baghdad radio citing "regional maritime sources" quoted by the Kuwaiti paper *AL-SIYASAH*. Iranian officials have requested aid from the FRG and Great Britain after explosions had occurred, the paper added.

Israel

Bus Attack — Reporting the recent attack on an Israeli bus near Bethlehem, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio claimed that a group of "our revolutionaries" carried out the attack that "killed or wounded several Zionist terrorists." However, the Al-'Asifah faction of Fatah refuted "'Arafat's deviationist leadership's claim" of responsibility, according to Damascus radio, and stated instead that Al-'Asifah carried out the attack in order to preserve the "armed Palestinian presence in the main confrontation arena." A Palestinian military spokesman cited by Radio Monte Carlo stated that the "Martyr Halim" group of the "General Command of the Palestinian Revolution Forces" carried out the attack within the context of "military escalation inside the occupied territories as approved by the Palestinian leadership during its recent meetings." Meanwhile, Israeli security forces lifted the curfew imposed on two Arab areas as a result of the incident and have detained several suspects, Jerusalem radio reported.

Egyptian Envoy — Prime Minister Shim'on Peres received Egyptian Charge d'Affaires Muhammad Basyuni, who conveyed a "polite, congratulatory" message from Egyptian President Husni Mubarak, IDF radio reported. In remarks broadcast by the radio, Basyuni reiterated that the thawing of bilateral relations will be based on withdrawal from Lebanon, building confidence with the West Bank Palestinians, and beginning negotiations on Tabah.

Egypt-USSR

The new Soviet ambassador arrived in Cairo and was met by a Foreign Ministry official, MENA reported.

Inter-Arab Affairs

PDRY President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad arrived in Algiers where he disclosed that his talks with Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid will cover Algerian-PDRY coordination on the Palestinian question, Algiers radio reported. Before leaving Syria the PDRY leader said his talks with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad were successful and will lead to further developments in Syrian-PDRY relations, according to Damascus radio.

Meanwhile, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat held talks in Jidda with Saudi King Fahd, SPA noted.

Lebanon

The ministerial conclave continued in Bikfayya with discussions focusing on the establishment of a 40-member body to study constitutional reform, the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio reported. The ministers also agreed that kidnapped persons should be released, Prime Minister Rashid Karami disclosed in remarks reported by the radio. In another development in Bikfayya, Lebanese military commanders discussed the security plan for the mountain with a Syrian military delegation, Beirut radio noted. The meeting was "positive" and the two delegations will hold further talks on 20 September. Meanwhile, Damascus radio announced details of the "complete agreement" reached in the Syrian capital between the warring factions in Tripoli, the Arab Democratic Party and the Islamic Grouping. The agreement stipulates that gunmen will be withdrawn from the city streets, that their heavy and medium weapons will be removed, and that Lebanese Army and Internal Security units, supported by Syrian Deterrent Forces, will maintain security in Tripoli and its environs. Nevertheless, clashes continued in the city following the announcement of the agreement, according to Voice of Lebanon radio.

Commenting on Syria's role in Lebanon in a magazine interview reported by Beirut radio, Syrian Defense Minister Talas stressed that Syria wants to finish with the Lebanese crisis as soon as possible and is not thinking of maintaining its military presence in Lebanon.

Libya-Chad

Libya wants to allow the Chadian people to solve their problem among themselves and hopes that all the factions will meet in Brazzaville to form a government of national union, Libyan

Foreign Liaison Secretary 'Ali 'Abd al-Salim al-Turayki affirmed in an interview broadcast by Paris radio's international service. Nevertheless, if there is further outside intervention in Chad, Libya must assume its "responsibilities," he added. The Libyan official indicated that the French-Libyan withdrawal agreement does not cover the Aozou Strip, which he described as "an integral part" of Libya.

Afghanistan

Up to 300 "guerrillas" were killed in a Soviet military operation in the Panjsher valley area that began in late August and was continuing as late as 17 September, AFP reported citing Western diplomatic sources in Islamabad. Resistance sources in Peshawar confirmed the operation but stated they had no casualty figures, the agency said.

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PLO Radio Reports on Israeli Bus Attack

JN181735 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Excerpts] On the second anniversary of the Sabra and Shatila massacres, a group of our revolutionaries inside the occupied homeland carried out a lightning attack on a Zionist bus carrying a group of armed Zionist terrorists near Bethlehem while the bus was moving from Hebron to occupied Jerusalem yesterday. Our revolutionaries surprised the bus with their machine gun fire and killed or wounded several Zionist terrorists. Reports from the occupied homeland said the Zionist occupation authorities immediately sent military reinforcements to the scene in a desperate attempt to besiege the area and to arrest the hero attackers, who were able to withdraw to their base safely.

In another development, world news agencies said the occupation authorities imposed a siege on the operation area to prevent reporters from taking details of our revolutionaries' daring operation. However, news of the operation leaked, forcing the Zionist enemy radio to admit our revolutionaries' daring attack. Citing a Zionist military spokesman, the radio claimed that only five Zionist terrorists were wounded, while eyewitnesses affirmed that a large number of Zionist ambulances rushed to the scene.

Dissidents Claim Responsibility for Bus Attack

JN182101 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2015 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] Damascus — Fatah claimed responsibility today for the daring commando operation carried out by the Al-'Asifah revolutionaries on the Bethlehem-Hebron road in the West Bank yesterday. Fatah refuted 'Arafat's deviationist leadership's claim of being responsible for this operation.

Commenting on this daring operation, the Palestinian news agency political editor said: The military operations which our revolutionaries carried out in the occupied homeland recently are a live embodiment and real interpretation of the principles and objectives for which the Fatah upheaval stand — foremost of which are preserving the armed Palestinian presence in the main confrontation arena with the enemy and protecting the Palestinian rifle from the attempts to drop it. The political editor considered 'Arafat's deviationist leadership's claim of being responsible for this operation as an attempt to emerge from its dilemma after losing its bet on the Zionist Labor Party and its initiatives. He added that these claims are made following the dead end which the deviationist course in the Palestinian arena reached and are in line with the misleading campaigns of 'Arafat and his Central Committee against the Palestinian and Arab masses.

AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT on PNC, Syrian-PLO Relations

PM180829 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 14 Sep pp 1-2

['Abd al-Bari 'Atwan report: "*AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* Reveals Secrets of Contacts To End the Crisis; Will the PNC Convene and Where?"]

[Text] London — The next few days will be full of surprises at the Palestinian level. Most of the surprises will be connected with the date and venue of the PNC session. These surprises and their consequences will determine many things, particularly the state of Syrian-Palestinian relations, PLO unity, and how solidly the PLO can represent the Palestinian people. From London, Tunis, Damascus, and Algiers, *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* has been following the current secret contacts aimed at resolving the crisis and finding a way to enable the PNC to convene.

As far as the time element is concerned, the PNC session was scheduled to be held in Algiers tomorrow in accordance with the Algiers and Aden agreements between Fatah and the four member organizations of the Palestinian Democratic Alliance. The session, however, has been postponed until the end of September to give Algeria and the PDRY a last chance to persuade the Syrian Government to approve the holding of the PNC session or at least not to object to it, and also to allow the PNC members who are in Syria to attend the PNC meetings.

PDRY Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad will leave for Damascus tomorrow, Saturday, for a meeting with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad in a final attempt to persuade him to soften his opposition to the holding of the PNC session and in an attempt to reach a mutually acceptable formula for a reconciliation with Fatah which would eventually lead to the normalization of relations between the two sides. While 'Ali Nasir Muhammad is in Damascus, representatives of the Palestinian organizations which signed the Aden-Algiers agreement will be meeting in the Algerian capital. The Fatah delegation to this meeting is headed by Deputy Commander in Chief of the Palestinian revolution's forces Khalil al-Wazir (Abu Jihad) and includes Fatah Central Committee members Mahmud 'Abbas (Abu Mazin) and Muhammad Ghunaym (Abu Mahir). [Central Committee member] Hayil 'Abd al-Hamid (Abu al-Hawl) is not attending because of illness.

Informed Palestinian sources have told *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* that PDRY Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad will go to Algeria immediately following his Damascus talks. He will report to the Algerian president and the Palestinian delegations on the results of his mediation in Damascus. In the light of these results the Palestinian delegation will meet to set the date and venue of the PNC session and will also begin preparing the agenda and issuing invitations.

The situation in Damascus before the arrival of the Yemeni leader has been summed up by a Palestinian official. He said the Syrian position is inflexible and that the "veto" against Abu 'Ammar's ['Arafat's] leadership of the PLO still stands. The Palestinian organizations in Damascus, supported by the Syrian Government, have threatened to call for a meeting of another Palestine National Council in Damascus to counter the PNC session in Algiers. Furthermore, the Syrian Government has threatened not to allow any PNC member residing in Damascus to return to Damascus if he attends the PNC meeting in Algiers. It should be remembered that 60 PNC members, including PNC Speaker Khalid al-Fahum, as well as a number of PLO Executive Committee members live in Damascus at present. The mediation efforts of the Algerian president and the PDRY chairman are geared toward easing the tension, preventing a battle between the

two sides, and persuading the Syrian Government to permit the PNC members to attend the session, at least as opposition members.

A Fatah Central Committee member has emphasized to *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* that the Palestinian leadership in Tunis has already secured a two-thirds majority and is determined not to postpone the PNC session beyond the end of September unless PDRY Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad's mediation produces some positive development such as Syrian approval of the PNC session and an agreement to allow the members residing in Damascus to attend.

As regards the venue of the PNC session and the possible surprises in this connection, they can be summed up as follows:

1. Algeria still insists there has been no change in its original decision to host the PNC session. However, the Libyan-Moroccan unity has created new circumstances which could mean that to hold the PNC session in Algeria would be a burden and an embarrassment to Algeria, especially if the mediation with Syria fails and if Syria insists on its opposition.

2. The PLO has received an invitatiton to hold the PNC session in Tehran. The invitation came after the Iranian president's visit to Syria, Libya, and Algeria. The invitation was conveyed to 'Arafat by the Iranian charge d'affaires in Tunis.

3. The Iraqi Government has extended a similar invitation to 'Arafat. Iraqi President Saddam Husayn has said his country is perfectly willing to host the PNC in Baghdad.

4. 'Arafat has received yet another invitation from YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih. It has also been reported that Kuwait has expressed willingness to host the PNC session.

The Palestinian leadership has informed the Algerian Government of these offers and has stressed to the Algerian president that it does not want to embarrass him and that alternative venues are available if holding the PNC session in Algiers is going to affect Algeria's relations with Libya and Syria. The Algerian president affirmed, however, that Algeria's position remains the same but he counseled patience until the results of the PDRY chairman's mediation in Damascus are known.

The difficult problem is how to set a date and venue for the PNC session without angering Syria, embarrassing Algeria, and causing a complete split within the PLO. The coming few days could bring solutions or complicate matters still further.

GULF AFFAIRS

Reportage of GCC Meeting in Saudi Arabia

Gulf Defense Ministers Arrive

LD181741 Riyadh SPA in English 1243 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] Abha, Sept 18, SPA — Foreign and defence ministers of the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council arrived here today at the start of a two-day meeting to discuss a working paper on collective responsibility in defending the region's independence. On arrival, they were received by Prince Sultan, the second deputy premier and defence and aviation minister; Prince Khalid al-Faisal, the governor of Asir region; Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, the foreign minister; and GCC Secretary General 'Abdallah Bisharah. He expressed his thanks to the Saudi Government and people for its constant efforts to boost the welfare and well-being of the six nations and wished the meeting every success in its mission.

Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani, Qatari heir apparent and minister of defence, indicated the importance of this meeting in view of the security, political and defence developments in the region. In a similar statement to SPA on arrival, Shaykh Hamad said the meeting comes in the framework of the GCC leaders' keenness to intensify efforts to ensure and guarantee the security and stability of the region.

The United Arab Emirates Defence Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Rashid al-Maktum expressed hope that the meeting will achieve its set goals of boosting and increasing cooperation and coordination between the six nations in all fields, particularly in defence and security sectors. Speaking to SPA, he said the recommendations of the meeting will be submitted to the GCC summit scheduled to take place in Kuwait in November for their ratification.

Omani Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Yusuf ibn al-Alawi 'Abdallah, prior to his departure from Muscat today, said that the meeting assumes its importance from the topics tabled for discussion. He said the meeting will discuss a number of security and defence issues.

eting Opens

LD181803 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1610 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] Khamis Mushayt, 18 Sep (SPA) — The joint meeting of GCC defense and foreign ministers opened this afternoon in King Faysal City in the southern region under the chairmanship of the Qatari heir apparent and minister of defense, Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani, with the attendance of the defense and foreign ministers of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Qatar, Oman, UAE, and Kuwait.

Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani asserted that the joint meeting of the GCC defense and foreign ministers constitutes a new step in the integration of the GCC countries. He noted that the joint meeting consolidates the solidarity and confirms the unity of the policies of the GCC countries toward defensive military integration. In his opening speech, he underlined the importance of holding the meeting in view of the new developments in the Gulf arena. In this connection he mentioned the attacks on oil tankers traveling in the Gulf, which threaten international navigation and open the door to foreign intervention in the region.

Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani stressed the conviction of the GCC countries that the protection of their security and independence requires that they collectively exert all possible efforts so that the defensive military integration plans required for this protection can systematically parallel the economic and political integration plans, because this is the best way to fulfill the high purposes the GCC seeks to attain.

He expressed his satisfaction with the completion of the GCC joint defense strategy study, noting that this subject is the principal point to be discussed at the joint meeting in preparation for the Gulf summit to be held in Kuwait in November. The Qatari heir apparent described this strategy as a major step on the road toward the coordination and integration of the GCC armed forces, one of the most important joint aims to preserve the security and stability of the region and keep it secure from foreign ambitions and conflicts.

Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani expressed his regrets over the continuation of the Iraq-Iran war in spite of efforts made by the GCC and other Islamic, Arab and international efforts to put an end to it. He called on peace-loving forces all over the world in general and the Islamic Good Offices Committee in particular, to double their efforts to stop the war on a just basis, preserving the legitimate right of both countries. He also expressed his hopes that God will guide the Arab nation to close ranks and put an end to the conflicts tearing it apart, and to rebuild the comprehensive solidarity guaranteeing the liberation of the Arab land and the Islamic shrines from attacks by the aggressor.

The chair was then given to His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. His royal highness pointed out that this meeting and the meetings that preceded it and the meetings that will follow are for the purpose of study and coordination in order to faithfully shoulder responsibilities before God, and before the leaders and citizens of the GCC member countries in a manner that will benefit all. He reaffirmed that security and stability in the region are the collective responsibility of all member states of the council. His royal highness added: "We see and have seen in the Gulf region events that make us draw closer to each other, coordinate our affairs and consult each other more than ever before in order to safeguard our states and peoples against the dangers and ambitions of others. We all have the strength to shoulder our responsibilities in order to preserve our achievements and nation."

He prayed that God almighty grant the participants success in adopting meaningful and constructive recommendations to keep the region secure and prosperous so that each state can continuously contribute together with the rest of the international family to the realization of prosperity and happiness for mankind. His royal highness said: "We all are pained today by the fact that the war between two fraternal Muslim neighbors — Iraq and Iran — is entering its fifth year. We are not pleased to see a Muslim drawing his sword against his Muslim brother at a time

when we are in need for solidarity to face our enemy and the enemy of the whole of mankind." He expressed his hope that the Iraq-Iran war will end as soon as possible and that peace, love, and amity will replace the shedding of innocent blood.

His Royal Highness Prince Sultan reaffirmed that solidarity and unity within the GCC are not against anyone nor is it a regional force preoccupied with itself and remote from the issues of our Islamic and Arab nation; in fact the GCC is a grouping that was and will remain a force for the protection of peace and the defense of right, not aggression.

GCC Secretary General 'Abdallah Bisharah then gave an address in which he expressed his hope that a document will emerge from this meeting that reflects the nations ambition to translate the principles laid down by their majesties and highnesses, the leaders of the Council countries since the first summit, into self-reliance and into the realm of reality in order to ensure the member countries' independence and sovereignty.

He noted that the agenda of this joint meeting is in fact a program for self-construction within a single, agreed upon framework. He explained that the defense item which will be put forward at this meeting was a step to lay down general principles that would translate the course drawn by their majesties and highnesses into tangible reality. This defense program will stress the connection between defense policy and internal security, the importance of a solid internal front, the buiulding of man to fortify him against disintegration and permissiveness, and the training of cadres capable of shouldering the responsibilities of carrying it out. He noted that the agenda is a program for the implementation of a policy of self-reliance which is sought by every citizen and which has become a trademark of the GCC countries' policies. It is also a program for collective action as it deals with the development of collective action both in the field of deterrence and in the building of the infra-structure for the armed forces in the member countries.

Mr Bisharah explained that this meeting will submit to the fifth summit a document representing the national ambition and the ambition of every citizen of the GCC countries to secure the independence and stability of these countries through collective defense cooperation. The document will also give evidence that the sons of these countries will shoulder the responsibility of defending their existence.

Afterwards the ministers held a closed session chaired by His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz.

First Working Session Ends

LD182023 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] The defense and foreign ministers of the member states of the GCC this evening ended their first working session which began earlier today under the chairmanship of His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy premier, minister of defense and aviation, and inspector general.

GCC Secretary General 'Abdallah Bisharah stated that the subjects listed on the agenda were discussed during the meeting, particularly the military working paper submitted by the Council's Secretariat General which concerns the laying down of a unified strategic military policy for joint defense. He noted that views were exchanged on this paper. He added that the defense and foreign ministers of the member-states of the GCC will resume their meeting tomorrow morning to complete some aspects of the agenda and views on defense. 'Abdallah Bisharah pointed out that the military experts will hold a meeting to discuss some of the topics on the agenda.

Joint Meeting Resumes 19 Sep

LD190947 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0907 GMT 19 Sep 84

[Text] Abha, 19 Sep (SPA) — Their highnesses and excellencies the ministers of defense and foreign affairs of the GCC member states resumed their joint meeting at 1130 today under the chairmanship of His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation and inspector general. At this meeting the ministers will continue their debate of the paper submitted by the Council Secretariat General on the defense and strategic policy of the member states. The joint meeting of the defense and foreign ministers started today at the King Faysal Military Base in the southern region.

GCC Not To Discuss Soviet Arms for Kuwait

LD190901 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0714 GMT 19 Sep 84

[Text] Kuwait, 19 Sep (KUNA) — Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal said in a press statement published here today that the subject of Soviet weapons for Kuwait will not be discussed at the Abha meetings which began yesterday in Saudi Arabia and which include the foreign and defense ministers of the GCC countries.

The foreign and defense ministers of the GCC countries, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Bahrain, the Sultanate of Oman and the United Arab Emirates, meeting at Abha last night concluded their first meeting and debated the the question of joint defense issues among the states of the Council.

In its issue today *AL-QABAS* reported the Saudi minister as saying that "this subject is not on the agenda because it is Kuwait's internal affair, and nothing would call for discussing this subject at the Abha conference." Following the visit of Defense Minister Shaykh Salim as-Sabah to Moscow last July, Kuwait signed a weapons deal last month with the Soviet Union.

In his statement Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal added that his country will acquaint the ministers' meeting in Abha with the results of the recent visit to Syria by Saudi Crown Prince Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and the outcome of his talks with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad.

BAHRAIN

Delegation Departs for GCC Meetings

GF181038 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0840 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] Manama, 18 Sep (WAKH) — Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah, heir apparent and commander in chief of the Bahraini Defense Force [BDF], left Manama today for Abha in Saudi Arabia to take part in the meeting of the GCC foreign and defense ministers. Upon his departure he was seen off by Prime Minister His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah and a number of Bahraini civilian and military officials. His Highness Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah is accompanied by Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah; chief of the heir apparent's court Shaykh Khalid ibn Ahmad Al Khalifah; Assistant Chief of the General Staff Staff Col 'Abdallah Salman Al Khalifah; 'Abdallah Kano; adviser at the Foreign Ministry 'Isa al-Jami', and others.

QATAR

Delegation Departs for GCC Meetings

GF181440 Doha QNA in Arabic 0825 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] Doha, 18 Sep (QNA) — His Highness Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani, Qatari heir apparent, defense minister and commander in chief of the Qatari Defense Forces, left Doha today for Abha in Saudi Arabia in order to chair the meeting of the GCC defense and foreign ministers which will begin here today. The meeting will discuss a number of GCC defense and security issues and a number of current political issues. His Highness the Qatari heir apparent is accompanied by an official delegation which includes Foreign Minister Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani; Director of the Heir Apparent's Office 'Abdallah Khalifah al-'Atiyah; Qatar's Ambassador to Saudi Arabia 'Abdallah Salih al-Mani', in addition to a senior military delegation.

SAUDI ARABIA

Riyadh Assesses GCC Meetings, Defense Policy

LD181734 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Analysis by 'Abdallah Salim (Al-Bakhah)]

[Excerpt] The town of Abha today witnesses a refreshing picture of Arab Gulf cohesion and integration with the GCC foreign and defense ministers' meeting which will be followed directly by 12th session of the GCC Ministerial Council. The second deputy prime minister, minister of defense, and inspector general, His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz' statement stressed the significance of this joint meeting in view of the very critical circumstances through which the region is passing and because it precedes the fifth Gulf summit by a short time, which highlights the fact that all political, defense, and economic issues will be discussed in depth in order to emerge with a joint and united perception that will strengthen the capability of the GCC countries to face all challenges.

The military aspect of the meeting aims at strengthening coordination and cooperation in various military spheres among the Council countries within the framework of a policy aimed at strengthening and stabilizing the region and the Council countries' security and safety. This was stated by His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz when he expressed the hope that the meeting will lead to results that will serve the region and protect it in order that the sons of the region can prove, as they had in the past, that their countries are peace- and harmony-loving and are working for the defense of what is sacred to them and to their peoples.

On the basis of statements made by officials of the GCC countries, the objective of military coordination and integration among the countries to reach a stage where the Council resembles a united military region and where the Council armies function as a united force in the event of any emergency. This was discussed by the Council chiefs of staff in their recent meeting, when agreement was reached on correcting shortcomings in defenses, following submissions by each country on their capabilities in preparation for the establishment of the joint military command of the Council countries into a substantial and active reality.

Riyadh Radio Comments on GCC Meeting

LD182143 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 18 Sep 84

["News and Comment" by Husayn al-Askari]

[Text] the joint meeting of the foreign and defense ministers of the member states of the GCC began in the town of Abha today. The transformation from expressing demands to implementing such demands is the distinguishing characteristic of the movement of the member states of the GCC. Each and every meeting by the various institutions of the Council is held according to such a concept and policy. The session in Abha today of the defense and foreign ministers of the GCC members plans to stress and deepen the theory of the joint responsibility shouldered by the member-states not only within the framework of these states but also throughout the Arab and international arenas. This is because the Gulf region was and still is a main area of attraction in the movement of international conflict, which makes the states of the region face an ever-increasing responsibility stemming from their concern to keep the region out of the conflicts of foreign powers striving to make the region an area of conflict among them.

As his highness the second deputy premier and defense and aviation minister said in a statement made on the eve of the Abha meeting, it is our hope that God almighty will grant the participants success so that they can serve religion, safeguard the region and prove to the world that their states seek love, peace, and amity among nations, and that they struggle for the defense of their sanctities and peoples. Hence, how the member states of the GCC deal with the problems of the region stems from a comprehensvie outlook and depends, after God, on one's self. No doubt the success of this policy means the introduction of new foreign policy concepts and makes the latter a distinguishing characteristic of the nature of the relations among the GCC

members and the method of dealing with Arab and international issues. All this is being accomplished within the framework of a historic and social standard linking these states with each other.

The gradual realization of aspirations is a question of strategy based on more important fields — economic, political and social — since they are the main pillars on which the edifice rests. This is what the GCC members take into account. Because the safeguarding of achievements is basically linked with the safegurding of the present, the question of joint defense lies in the comprehensive framework within which development in all spheres of life operates. For all these considerations the Abha meeting of the GCC foreign and defense ministers assumes special importance. Regional development requires that the states of the region should have their own plans in dealing with this development and not in dealing with the reactions of this development.

Further on Yasir 'Arafat Visit

Received by King Fadh

LD182229 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2215 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] Jidda, 18 Sep (SPA) — His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz tonight received Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee. The meeting was attended by His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the crown prince and deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and commander of the National Guard. It was also attended by His Excellency the Minister of Information 'Ali al-Sha'ir. Abu 'Ammar was accompanied by Brothers Hani al-Hasan, PLO political adviser and member of the PLO Central Committee, and Rafiq al-Natshah, the PLO representative in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

UAE

UAE Papers: Arab Solidarity at GCC Meetings

GF190822 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0700 GMT 19 Sep 84

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 19 Sep (WAM) — The newspapers *AL-WAHDAH* and *AL-BAYAN* have expressed the hope that the meetings of the GCC defense and foreign affairs ministers, which started in Abha yesterday, will produce positive results with regard to security in the region, particularly considering the present circumstances. The newspaper *AL-WAHDAH* said the importance of the joint meetings stems from the challenges imposed on the Gulf region by the foreign powers who are concerned with nothing but securing their strategic interests. Thus, the paper added, these meetings acquire a military dimension as well as a political dimension.

The paper said that the anxiety of the leaders of these states to protect the national gains and the political decisions of their countries urges them to continue the effort to recognize all the dangers facing the region and stress the necessity of eliminating Arab differences and achieving Arab solidarity. The paper noted the importance of military coordination among the GCC states, a task which has become a pressing necessity "due to the presence of horrifying causes and interferences imposed by the superpower conflict which is overt at times and covert at other times." The paper also noted the importance of reactivating the peace initiatives with regard to the efforts to stop the Iraqi-Iranian war. Concluding its editorial, the paper hoped that the meeting will result in additional coordination and cooperation and in achieving the best means for facing the present circumstances.

The newspaper *AL-BAYAN*, which is published in Dubayy, in its editorial today concentrated on the concept of Gulf security. The paper said the GCC states adopted from the very beginning the policy of keeping the foreign powers away from the region and rejecting any foreign intervention to avoid opening the door "for the labyrinth of international conflicts whose only loser would be the people of the Gulf," and raised the slogan that the Gulf's security is the responsibility of the Gulf countries as they go foward with the process of developing their defense capabilities within a joint framework. Hence, the paper added, the framework of these meetings — which are aimed at crystallizing a unified strategy for a defense policy capable of security stability in the region — can be understood.

The paper stressed that the most prominent dangers threatening Gulf security is the Iraqi-Iranian war and that if the GCC states that have not spared any effort to stop the bloodshed are doing the best they can in order to achieve security and stability in the Gulf through developing and coordinating their defense strategies, the more important result would be that their efforts stop this war. The paper concluded its editorial by stressing that any policies or programs endorsed at the Abha meetings will serve the desired goala and that any success in this regard will be reflected positively on pan-Arab national security and will help prepare the climate for effective Arab solidarity.

New Somali Ambassador to UAE — Rashid 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs, received at his office yesterday the credentials of 'Abd al-Rahman 'Uthman, new Somali ambassador to the UAE. [Text] [*Al-Shariqah AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 18 Sep 84 p 2 GF*]

PDRY

YSP, Mongolian Delegation Issue Statement

GF181800 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Report on joint press statement issued following the meeting between the YSP and a Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party delegation in Aden — date not given, read by the announcer]

[Text] In a joint press statement issued after the conclusion of the government and the party discussions, the two parties affirmed their determination to strengthen and expand bilateral relations by all means in the coming years, especially in political, cultural, and other fields. They referred to the importance of bolstering relations between the YSP and the MPRP as a basic element for developing friendly bilateral relations, for developing direct, regular contacts between the two countries, and for exchanging views on legislative matters, ministries, and popular organiza-

tions in orderto learn about all aspects of life, work methods in the two countries, and their experiences in building a new society.

Reviewing the international situation, the two parties reiterated their conviction that our planet is subjected to new dangers due to the harsh aggressive attitude of some of the most reactionary imperialist circles, especially the NATO countries under the leadership of the United States which is raising tensions in the Middle East, South Africa, Central America, and Southeast Asia. The United States tries to suppress the national liberation movements in Palestine, Namibia, and El Salvador, and tries to expand its confrontation policy and the arms race and transfer it to outer space, including the deployment of medium-range missiles in Europe under the pretext of curbing the Soviet danger. The two parties expressed support for Soviet and the other socialist countries'initiatives aimed at avoiding the dangers of a new destructive war.

They also expressed their determination to contribute to the international struggle for peace, security, and social progress for all nations and to confront aggressive imperialist policy and attempts aimed at interfering in the internal affairs of independent countries. The two parties reiterated their support for the national liberation movements in Asia, Africa, and Latin America, especially the just struggle of the Arab Palestinian people for their legitimate rights to return to their homeland, for self-determination, and for establishing an independent state on their national territories under the leadership of the PLO as their sole legitimate representative.

They welcomed the new Soviet proposals for settling the crisis in the Middle East. They denounced the imperialist-Israeli aggressive plots against the Palestinian people and the other Arab nations. The two parties welcomed the formation of the Ethiopian Workers' Party. They considered this as a new victory for the international revolutionary movement and a safety valve for the Ethiopian revolution.

Mongolian Delegation Departs

GF181640 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Excerpt] The Mongolian Government and party delegation led by Comrade Jambyn Batmonh, member of the MPRP Politbureau and chairman of the party Control Committee, left Aden today after an official visit to our country. The delegation had been invited by the YSP. During the visit the delegation held meetings and discussions with a number of the YSP and government officials.

YAR

Briefs

Outgoing Swedish Envoy to YAR — Brother 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani, prime minister and member of the Standing Committee, today received Swedish nonresident Ambassador (?Carl-Gustaf Gabriel Bielke) on the end of the latter's term of office as Swedish ambassador to the YAR. [Text][*San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 18 Sep 84 GF*]

Lebanese Ship With Explosives Refused Access to Canal

NC190625 Paris AFP in English 0611 GMT 19 Sep 84

[Text] Cairo, Sept 19 (AFP) — Egyptian authorities have refused passage through the Suez Canal to a Lebanese vessel because it was carrying explosives, port sources said today in Port Said, northern entrance to the waterway.

The destination of the *Moonlight*, and the exact cargo, were not given.

Egyptian authorities tightened control of vessels planning to sail through the canal after a series of explosions damaged vessels in the Red Sea and Gulf of Suez this summer.

Masters must give details of their cargo 24 hours before entering the canal, and any vessel carrying dangerous goods is likely to be turned back.

Abu Ghazalah Speaks on Red Sea Mining 17 Sep

NC171534 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1410 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Excerpts] Cairo, 17 Sep (MENA) — The People's Assembly today heard a reply from Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production, to the queries and questions of the Assembly members about the Red Sea and Suez Gulf mines.

Abu Ghazalah said we have started thinking about Arab cooperation on the Red Sea's security. A working group has been set up in coordination with the Foreign Ministry. There is a complete study on how to safeguard the Red Sea and the means and resources required, such as setting up a higher committee for the security of the Red Sea and other means.

Abu Ghazalah then talked about the explosions. He said the total number that occurred in Egyptian territorial waters was 8 and the total number of incidents in the Red Sea was 12. He added that Egyptian minesweepers were sent to the Gulf of Suez to search for floating mines because there are no minesweepers that can search for mines planted on the seabed. All ships passing through the area were put under observation, and suspect ships were searched without discrimination between one country or another.

He noted that the Armed Forces have given priority to the plan for modernizing and developing their ability to search for mines in order to confront international terrorism in the region.

Abu Ghazalah said the cost that Egypt will bear for searching the Red Sea for mines will reach 10.5 million pounds. He also stressed that the Armed Forces are capable of protecting Egypt and have the plans to confront all eventualities.

In his reply, Abu Ghazalah spoke of the parties that possibly could be involved in the mining operations. He said: We had to study the countries that have an interest in creating disturbances in the Red Sea. Doubts began to center on the countries which have most interest in creating such disturbances. For example, there is the declaration by the speaker of the Iranian Majlis on 28 June that he will move [the Gulf] conflict to the Red Sea and will attack the tankers of the countries that are helping Iraq. The first explosion occurred on 9 July. We took this as evidence and not proof.

He added: Then the Iranian Islamic Jihad Organization stepped forward to claim responsibility in the wake of the explosions. We studied the circumstances of the various explosions and found that each explosion took place after the passage of an Iranian or a Libyan ship. Doubts were reduced to these two countries, particularly to the Libyan ship *Ghat*, when an explosion took place after it passed through [the Suez Gulf].

Abu Ghazalah said the Libyan ship *Ghat* has always been manned by crews from various nationalities. But before crossing this time, the multinational crew was replaced by a Libyan military crew. This crew was commanded by Colonel Sadiq Bilfil, who was assisted by Lieutenant Colonel Zuhayr Adham, commander of the special naval units — that is, the units that specialize in mine planting. This really makes us suspect it. A cable from Al-Qadhdhafi to Khomeyni congratulating him on the Red Sea explosions was also intercepted.

Abu Ghazalah said the two fronts that have more interest than any others in these disturbances are Libya and Iran. But Iran was somewhat ruled out after [studying the movements] of the Libyan ship *Ghat*. All this is evidence that does not reach the level of conclusive proof.

'Abd al-Majid Reports on Malta, Rome Talks to Mubarak

NC152030 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Text] Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid submitted a report to President Muhammad Husni Mubarak and Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali on the results of the Malta conference on security and cooperation among the Mediterranean nonaligned countries. The report also dealt with the minister's visit to Rome and his meetings with Italian Prime Minister Bettino Craxi and Foreign Minister Andreotti.

Al-Majid Comments on Rome Talks, Mines

PM170858 Rome LA REPUBBLICA in Italian 13 Sep 84 p 8

[Piero Benetazzo report: "Egypt Likes Italy's Diplomacy"]

[Text] Rome — The Red Sea mines and balances in the Mediterranean were the subject — and one involving the whole of the crisis that has beset the Middle East for years — that Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Majid discussed in Rome with his counterpart Andreotti and with Prime Minister Craxi. During his brief trip to Rome the Egyptian minister brought the new awareness of an Egypt reemerging on the international scene and determined to regain its regional role, temporarily obscured by the Camp David accords.

And, as Al-Majid told journalists, within the strategy of "stabilization" that Egypt proposes to pursue, Italy is an "rightful interlocutor," by virtue both of its geographical position and of

its intensive diplomatic activity with respect to the Arab world. "We greatly appreciate both Italy's presence in Sinai and the promptness with which Italy's minesweepers responded to our appeal: Our two countries' interests are identical and there are no tensions or contradictions of any kind. We appreciate what you are doing and we would like this message to reach the Italian people. Are we worried about Italy's good relations with Libya and Syria? Absolutely not: Italy's role is to maintain really excellent relations with all the Arab countries, even with those with which we are in conflict. In this way you can carry out crucial action of mediation and stabilization in the region."

According to the Egyptian foreign minister a new and crucially important factor — which demands a redefinition of prospects and strategies — has emerged from the mines crisis: the shift of the strategic center of gravity from the Persian Gulf to the Red Sea, toward which a large proportion of oil traffic is being directed, via new oil pipelines intended to avoid the war." [quotation marks as published] "The Hormuz Straits," Al-Majid said, "are therefore gradually losing their strategic importance in favor of the Red Sea, thus placing new and unexpected responsibilities — of which we are well aware — on Egypt." And the "prime responsibility" is a more incisive [profilata] and resolute international presence.

"We have no complexes with regard to the Arab world," Al-Majid explained.

"We proceed from a position of the most complete equality. A return to the Arab League? For the time being we are not considering it: It is not our major concern. Be that as it may, Egypt is an integral part of the Arab world, so our relations can only be complete: If they exclude us, the whole 'body' of the Arab world will suffer. But let it be clear that we do not accept any conditions on our relations with the Arab countries, just as we do not place any on them. We have international commitments which we intend to honor, and we also have a regional role which we intend to perform."

Question: Are you referring to Camp David and the peace agreement with Israel?

Answer: Yes. There is a peace process that must continue, and this is the responsibility that the new Israeli Government must shoulder. We hope that Peres will specifically display the will to act in the peace process on three points that we consider essential: The Palestinian problem, withdrawal from Lebanon, and the conduct of negotiations on the strip of sea that Israel still occupies in Sinai. Relations with Egypt depend on the solution of these three problems.

Question: What kind of mechanism of cooperation do you intend to set out. Perhaps even military cooperation?

Answer: I really do not know what will emerge from the [Red Sea countries'] conference, but the mere fact of its being convened is a crucially important step. Discussions are being resumed by countries that have not spoken to each other for years, with the aim of cooperating in the security of navigation in an area of prime strategic importance. It is too early to talk about a mechanism of military cooperation, but the resumption of the dialogue does indeed mean that we are moving toward a stabilization process in the region. All the seaboard countries — excerpt, for the moment, at least, Ethiopia and South Yemen — will be taking part in it.

Question: What about the mines and the charges leveled at Libya and Iran?

Answer: The changes are based on very strong suspicions — as you already know, on the passage of Libyan and Iranian ships, which stopped in the area longer than necessary a few days before the first explosions. We do not yet have any concrete proof. Are there any mines left? We were very worried at the beginning but if it is now proven that there are none left we will be very pleased.

Question: How much longer must our minwsweepers stay in The Red Sea?

Answer: I believe another 2 weeks at the most. In any case, this was the timetable reckoned at the start of your intervention.

Foreign Minister Holds Talks With Jordanian Official

NC151515 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1410 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Text] Cairo, 15 Sep (MENA) — Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid today met with Hikmat al-Masri, vice chairman of the Jordanian Senate, who is currently visiting Egypt. The talks during the meeting included a review of the Arab situation in general and the situation in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. They also discussed what Egypt could do to alleviate the sufferings of the West Bank and Gaza people in various fields. Discussions also dealt with the possibilities and means of bolstering the peace process in the Middle East.

'Abd al-Majid, Andreotti Meet in Cairo Airport

NC162054 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2042 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] Cairo, 16 Sep (MENA) — Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid this evening met with Italian Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti during the latter's stopover at Cairo Airport on his way home from Jidda.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid said that his discussions with the Italian minister dealt with issues of common interest to the two countries in completion of the talks they held in Rome last Wednesday.

Andreotti stated that during his meeting with Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid they exchanged views on issues of interest to the two countries within the framework of close relations between Egypt and Italy.

The Italian foreign minister said that his talks in Saudi Arabia were positive and dealt with the means of bolstering bilateral relations, particularly economic and trade relations.

Mubarak Meets Delegation to UN, 'Abd al-Majid Comments

NC171700 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1550 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Excerpts] Cairo, 17 Sep (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak today received Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid and Egypt's delegation to the upcoming UN General Assembly session, which includes members of the People's Assembly. Following the meeting, 'Abd al-Majid said they examined some of the issues that will be discussed during the UN General Assembly's session.

'Abd al-Majid stressed that Egypt is prepared to coordinate with the rest of the Arab countries attending the session, adding that he will hold meetings with some Arab foreign ministers in New York.

'Abd al-Majid commented on the postponement of the Red Sea countries' security meeting, saying that the meeting was postponed because Sudan believes that Ethiopia, the PDRY, and Egypt should take part in the conference. 'Abd al-Majid said Egypt favors the participation of all the Red Sea countries. Hence, he said, Sudan is currently holding contacts and a future meeting will be arranged.

Speaking about the new Egyptian initiative announced yesterday in the People's Assembly, 'Abd al-Majid said: We will discuss the French initiative, which is already on the UN General Assembly's agenda, with the other delegations. We are prepared to discuss this or any other initiative.

The foreign minister denied that any contact has been made between Egypt and the new Israeli Government.

Dr Muhammad 'Abd al-Ilah, chairman of the People's Assembly Foreign Relations Committee and member of the Egyptian delegation — said that the meeting underlines the president's belief in the legislative branch's role. This belief is manifested by the participation of the People's Assembly and the Consultative Council [in the delegation].

Party Leaders on Meeting

NC171643 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1600 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Text] Cairo, 17 Sep (MENA) — Ibrahim Shukri, leader of the Socialist Labor Party and member of the Egyptian delegation to the upcoming UN General Assembly meetings, said after the president's meeting with the delegation members that the meeting was characterized by a spirit of nationalism and understanding of the mission the delegation will carry out.

Shukri affirmed there are no differences in views among the parties on topics of discussion on the international level, such as stands on the Nonaligned Movement, on dealings among states, on the Palestinian issue and the need for PLO participation in any future negotiations or dialogue, or on the need for Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon. He said the discussion dealt with some domestic issues. He expressed hope that the various parties will participate in similar meetings in the future.

Yasin Siraj al-Din, member of the New al-Wafd Party Higher Committee, also praised the meeting, saying it was a kind gesture and that they were happy to meet with President Mubarak. As usual, the president spoke to us as Egyptians and equals. Egypt is above everything else. We will serve Egypt and we hope we will live up to this responsibility.

Soviet Ambassador Arrives in Cairo 18 Sep

NC181812 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1755 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] Cairo, 18 Sep (MENA) — Belonogov, the new Soviet ambassador to the Arab Republic of Egypt, arrived in Cairo this evening. In a statement following his arrival, the Soviet ambassador said: I have the honor of representing my country and I am happy to be an ambassador to a country famous for its civilization.

Ambassador Belonogov noted that Egyptian-Soviet relations are full of unblemished pages, and said: I will be happy to contribute to developing bilateral relations of friendship.

He was received at the airport by Counselor 'Abd al-Mun'im 'Adawi from the Foreign Ministry's Protocol Department, some East Bloc ambassadors, members of the Soviet Embassy in Cairo, and the Ethiopian ambassador in Cairo.

It should be recalled that in July, Egypt and the Soviet Union decided to restore diplomatic relations on the ambassadorial level following a 3-year estrangement.

President Mubarak, Honecker Exchange Cables

NC151524 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1445 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Text] Cairo, 15 Sep (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak received the following cable from Erich Honecker, secretary general of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany (GDR) and chairman of the GDR State Council, on the occasion of his passage today through the airspace of the Arab Republic of Egypt:

I am pleased, while passing through your airspace again, to send you the best greetings and the sincerest wishes to the friendly Egyptian people. The talks and meetings I had during my presence in the Socialist Republic of Ethiopia have restrengthened my full conviction of the sincere desire of the African peoples to have peace in the world. This is to what the GDR is aspiring. I hope that Your Excellency will accept my highest regards.

President Husni Mubarak has replied with a cable of thanks to his excellency.

Mubarak Confers With Opposition Leader

NC180956 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0930 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] Cairo, 18 Sep (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak received in the Al-'Urubah Palace this morning National Progressive Unionist grouping leader Khalid Muhyi al-Din. Following the meeting, Muhyi al-Din said that during the meeting

President Mubarak reviewed certain current political issues pertinent to internal and external situations.

Norwegian Defense Minister Leaves Cairo 17 Sep

NC171441 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1415 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Text] Cairo, 17 Sep (MENA) — Norwegian Defense Minister Anders Sjaastad today left Cairo for Al-Jawrah in the Sinai, and from there will go to Israel. During his 2-day visit to Egypt, Sjaastad met with Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production, and Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, and exchanged views with them on the Middle East situation.

Before his arrival in Cairo, Sjaastad visited Lebanon, where he inspected the 900 Norwegian soldiers stationed there.

'Ali Reportedly Suffered Stomach Hemorrhage

PM121404 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 10 Sep 84 pp 1-2

[Unattributed report: "Kamal Hasan 'Ali Due Back in Cairo Today. An *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* Exclusive Report on His Health"]

[Excerpts] Cairo — [Egyptian Prime Minister] Kamal Hasan 'Ali is scheduled to arrive back in Cairo from Geneva today, Monday. He spent a week in a Geneva hospital for treatment. The treatment required the presence of his doctor, Major General Tahsin al-Hadidi, the rheumatism specialist who has retired from the Armed Forces hospital in Al-Ma'adi and is now professor of rheumatic diseases at Al-Azhar Faculty of Medicine. He was summoned from Cairo to Geneva to confirm 'Ali's recent treatment and case history.

'Ali, under pressure of work before and since he assumed the duties of prime minister, had to take heavy doses of the drugs prescribed, especially cortisone, for the treatment of his chronic rheumatoid condition. Under the pressure of job and commitments he sometimes used to increase the drug doses without his doctor's permission. This led to gastric bleeding. All rheumatism drugs exhaust the stomach and cause internal bleeding. 'Ali was moved to the second floor of the Armed Forces hospital in Al-Ma'adi and received treatment under the supervision of Dr Tahsin al-Hadidi.

Kamal Hasan 'Ali's disease is of the degenerative type, causing acute tissue damage and swelling and inflamation of the wrists and knees as well as further complications such as deformity in the fingers.

Briefs

New Envoy to FRG — Cairo, 14 Sep (MENA) — Ambassador al-Shafi'i 'Abd al-Hamid, left Cairo this morning for Bonn to take his post as ambassador of the Arab Republic of Egypt to the FRG. He replaces Dr 'A'Ishah Ratib. It is noteworthy that Ambassador al-Shafi'i 'Abd al-Hamid is a former assistant foreign minister. [Text] [*Cairo MENA in Arabic 0728 GMT 14 Sep 84 NC*]

Saddam Husayn Confers With Army Officers

JN181535 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1500 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] President Saddam Husayn, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, met with a number of our heroic Army officers this morning. The meeting was attended by Staff General 'Abd al-Jabbar Shanshal, minister of state for military affairs; the chief of the Army staff; and the president's secretary.

Bangladesh President on Gulf War, Ties With Iraq

JN190653 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0520 GMT 19 Sep 84

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 19 Sep (INA) — Bangladesh President Hussain Mohammad Ershad has said that his country has recently proposed specific measures to end the Iraqi-Iranian war. He emphasized that his country places all its capabilities behind the efforts being exerted by the Islamic Good Offices Committee to end the war, adding that he invited the committee to hold its next meeting in his country's capital, Dhaka.

In a statement to *AL-JUMHURIYAH*, published here today, Ershad called on Gambian President Dawda Jawara to follow up the submitted proposals and to contact Iraq and Iran for the sake of establishing peace.

Regarding the results of his visit to Iraq, which ended yesterday, the Bangladesh president said: The results are a step toward bolstering bilateral cooperation. He added: President Saddam Husayn presented ideas to develop this cooperation. I am currently preparing integrated proposals that take these ideas into account.

Minister Leaves for Washington IMF Meetings

JN190928 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0851 GMT 19 Sep 84

[Text] Baghdad, 19 Sep (INA) — Finance Minister Hisham Hasan Tawfiq left for Washington this morning leading a delegation to participate in the annual IMF and World Bank meetings, scheduled to open later today.

During the 8-day meetings, the conferees will discuss topics related to credit policies, increasing the World Bank capital, and the draft of the final statement on the future of the world economic situation.

Talas' Admission of Israeli Aid to Iran Noted

JN181554 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1500 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] Beirut — The Syrian regime's defense minister, Mustafa Talas, has admitted that the Zionist enemy offered military assistance to the Khomeyni regime. In an interview published in the Lebanese magazine *AL-SAYYAD* today, Talas said that, in accordance with a $25 million deal, the Zionist enemy supplied the Iranian regime with military equipment. He alleged that the deal was concluded through a third party.

Former Iranian President Bani-Sadr had earlier revealed the military cooperation between the Zionist and Iranian regimes. This cooperation was also confirmed by former Zionist Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon shortly after Bani-Sadr's revelations.

Minister Comments on Talas Statement on War

JN190828 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 19 Sep 84 pp 1, 23

[Excerpt] Amman, *AL-RA'Y* — Latif Nusayyif Jasim, Iraqi minister of culture and information, has said that Iraq, God willing, will soon achieve victory in its war with Iran, and that Tehran's next offensive against the Arab nation will be defeated.

In a telephone contact with *AL-RA'Y* in Baghdad yesterday, Jasim commented on Syrian Defense Minister General Mustafa Talas' statement that the Gulf war would end immediately should Iraq revive the 1978 unity agreement between Syria and Iraq.

Jasim said: Only the will and steadfastness of Iraq's heroes can end the war with Iraq. Iraq, which considers Arab unity a sacred objective, is waging this war in defense of the entire Arab nation's honor and dignity.

Communique No 1,592 Reports New Iranian Defections

JN181632 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Communique No 1,592 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 18 September 1984]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

With unyielding determination, the victorious Iraqi forces are continuing their operations along the frontline in defense of Iraq's chaste soil against the tyrant Khomeyniite clique. The results for last night and today are the following:

1. Using artillery and other weapons, our forward units pounded enemy fortifications and vehicles east of Basra, inflicting losses in supplies and equipment and destroying three vehicles of various types, one of them carrying personnel.

2. Our Army helicopter gunships today carried out daring successful attacks on four enemy boats east of Basra. The four boats were destroyed and all our helicopters returned safely and triumphantly to base, praise be to God.

3. Our forward units carried out vehement, effective strikes on enemy positions, troop concentrations, and vehicles in the northern sector, inflicting a number of casualties and destroying one vehicle.

4. New groups of Iranian civilians, as well as military personnel, sought refuge with our forward units in the northern sector after escaping from the oppression of the rule of charlatanism in Qom and Tehran. They were all safely evacuated to the rear.

5. One infantry position was destroyed in the central sector.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 18 September 1984

AL-SIYASAH Claims Mines Laid Around Khark Island

JN181923 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] The Kuwaiti newspaper *AL-SIYASAH* has quoted regional maritime sources as saying that the Iraqis carried out a wide and accurate mine-planting operation in the area surrounding Iran's Khark Island without announcing this publicly. The paper says that officials in Tehran sought help from the FRG and British intelligence experts after they were alarmed by the explosions which took place and which were kept secret.

The paper adds that the Iraqis, who watch the area, noticed Western ships in the oil loading areas and discovered that they were searching for the mines which the Iraqis planted. The Iraqis attacked the Western ships and killed five experts who were working on board the ships.

Country Determined To Defend Itself Against Iran

GF161628 Baghdad International Service in Azeri 1800 GMT 13 Sep 84

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Dear listeners, irrespective of how much grudge and hostility the illiterate and racist Iranian rulers direct against our heroic people, they will not be able to shake the determination of the Iraqi people. This is due to the fact that our people know well why they are fighting and for what purpose.

The activity and the defeated offensives of the illiterate Iranian rulers during the 4-year-long war, which have been aimed at hostility and expansion against the Iraqi people, have exposed their racist tendencies and animosity. These illiterates have not refrained from committing every kind of crime with a view to occupying our sacred land during the past 4 years. With a view to destroying our security and dividing and subjugating our people, these crazy illiterates have not refrained from [word indistinct] moves. But regardless of all their dirty moves, they have been unable to achieve a single thing.

For each and every offensive they organize against Iraq, the illiterate mullahs' regime in Iran forcibly organize military units from every part of that country. They also create clashes at the battlefronts — suffering extensive losses with every attack. They are crushed and as a result Iraq is victorious.

The offensives organized to date clearly indicate that the Iranian rulers have no [words indistinct] to occupy Iraq. They only wish to occupy the land of Iraq. The attacks organized by Khomeyni are of an aggressive nature. The only aspiration of the warmongering mullahs is to crush the Iraqi people and annex the land of Iraq. That is why they have been committing crimes to prolong the war. However, irrespective of prolonging the clashes, this suspicious regime is suffering from defeats. And, the members of the said regime are singing war songs like Don Quixote — not taking a lesson from the military misfortunes that have befallen them.

It seems that with a view to imprisoning Iraq and realizing their policies, these illiterates have established close relations with all reactionary forces in the world — including Israel which is the [word indistinct] of Great Britain and U.S. imperialism. This encourages the Khomeyni regime and gives way to instigation for prolonging the war.

However, the mullah rulers in Iran must know well that President Saddam Husayn and his heroic people will not give any opportunity to the inimical band of aggressors of our time. As President Saddam Husayn has said, the heroic Iraqi people are prepared to defend their honor, dignity, and land in a glorious way.

The impostors in Tehran and Qom should be aware of this reality.

Gulf Countries Seen as Target of Iranian Plot

GF181650 Baghdad International Service in Azeri 1800 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Dear listeners, a new and deceitful conspiracy hatched by the Khomeyni regime against the Arabian Gulf countries in addition to its hostile stance against them has recently come to light. This plot is one related to the Khomeyni regime's wish to establish close relations with a number of countries in the Arabian Gulf.

This rotten conspiracy has been described as regrettable and [word indistinct] development by a number of people — the reason being that Khomeyni has regarded the Arabian Gulf countries in general and those close to Iran in particular as an inseparable part of his empire and has never respected their legitimate rights. At every favorable opportunity, he forcefully pursued a policy of expansion at the expense of the said countries.

Currently the Khomeyni regime (?feigns desirous of rectifying) its relations with these countries. It pretends to wish to establish good relations with them. However, we have been aware of the doublefaced nature of that deceitful and diabolic entity a long time ago. Its prime objective is to push these countries away from Iraq in order to maintain its occupationist policy. We know well that the Khomeyni regime is a neofascist administration in the region which receives aid from international imperialists and Israel for disrupting security in the region.

On the other side of the coin displayed by that regime is the imperialist and (?fascist) policy it pursues under the title of the Islamic revolution. There is the intention of placing the Arabian Gulf countries under the influence of the Iranian revolution at an appropriate time. Its persistent stance on prolonging the war against Iraq, which has been holding an uncompromising position against every kind of imperialist aggression during the past 4 years and which (?supports) the legitimate (?rights) and independence of the Arabian Gulf countries, is proof of that fact.

The true nature of the treacherous and fascist position of the Khomeyni regime proves that it has never considered the Arabian Gulf countries among the ranks of the Islamic countries. In fact, it has been committing every possible crime in order to destroy them. [sentence indistinct]

Four years ago the Khomeyni regime imposed its aggressive war on the people of Iraq with the intention of crushing Iraq first and then moving on to destroy the remaining Arab countries. Had Khomeyni gained any victory in his aggressive war, he would have dealt severe blows to the Arabian Gulf countries with a view to further spreading the war. However, the defeats inflicted on the Khomeyni regime at the battlefronts and the victories achieved by the heroic Iraqi people every day dealt crushing blows to Khomeyni's policy of aggression and expansion.

Undoubtedly, therefore, the Arabian Gulf countries will not be deceived by Khomeyni's current policy.

Siege of Khark May Reach 'Very Severe' Level

GF190915 Baghdad International Service in Azeri 1800 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Dear listeners, no one can deny that the siege of Khark Island by Iraq has brought a serious crisis on the Iranian regime — a choking depression. If there were a way to save Iran from this bad situation, it is the acceptance of a just peace by the Tehran rulers. However, to date, the Iranian rulers have not concerned themselves with the question of peace. Instead, they have stubbornly insisted on escalating the war. Therefore, so long as they continue their stubbornness and arrogance, Iraq will not abandon its siege of Khark Island which is aimed at crushing the Iranian economy.

According to reports from Britain's [words indistinct], the Iranian rulers wish to charter small tankers from international maritime companies with a view to ridding themselves of the effects of the siege of Khark Island. Instead of large tankers weighing thousands of tons, they will use these vessels to export their oil to foreign countries.

It is common knowledge that international maritime companies are not sending their tankers to Khark Island, which is under siege by Iraq. Nor do they wish to do so. They know well that oil tankers approaching Khark Island will be hit and destroyed by the capable Iraqi naval units and Air Force. Even if the Iranian rulers contemplate exporting oil with smaller vessels, they too will be destroyed by Iraq's Navy and Air Force.

The Iranian rulers are currently confronted with a serious and difficult economic situation. As usual, however, they are trying to deceive the Iranian people by claiming that they will achieve decisive victory at the battlefronts. Nevertheless, the Iranian people must well know that the Iranian military forces have not achieved any victory during the 4-year long aggressive war. Nor will they do so through their future offensives.

The Iraqi people and the heroic Iraqi Army well know why and what they are fighting for. Iraq got involved in the war with the intention of warding off the aggression and meaningless hostility directed against it by force. It has been fighting to defend its honor and dignity and its homeland against foreign aggression. In the course of the war it has proved its superiority in every field.

Iraq believed that laying siege to Khark Island would be an effective way to end the war.

However, if the Iranian rulers fail to (?understand this state of affairs), then the intensity of the siege may be raised to a very severe level.

King Husayn Holds Talks With Britain's Thatcher

JN181825 Amman Television Service in Arabic
1800 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn met with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher during a working luncheon in London this afternoon. They exchanged viewpoints on a number of current international issues, especially the situation in the Middle East and bilateral relations. The meeting, which lasted 2 hours, was attended on the Jordanian side by Al-Sharif Zayid ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces, and Hani Tabbrah, Jordan's ambassador in London. It was attended on the British side by Michael Heseltine, secretary of state for defense; Richard Luce, minister of state for foreign and Commonwealth affairs; the British chief of staff; and the British ambassador to Jordan.

Parliamentary Delegation Leaves for USSR

JN181527 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic
1450 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] Amman, 18 Sep (PETRA) — A Jordanian parliamentary delegation headed by Ahmad al-Tarawinah, member of the Senate, left Amman for Moscow this afternoon on a 1-week visit to the USSR at the invitation of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. The Jordanian delegation will hold talks with Soviet officials on strengthening parliamentary relations between the two countries.

The delegation consists of 'Ali Hasan 'Awdah, member of the Senate, and Representatives 'Abd al-Baqi Jammu, Khalid al-Fayyad, 'Ati Abu al-'Izz, and Senate Assistant Secretary General Muhammad 'Ali Dhiyab.

JORDAN TIMES Hints at Anti-U.S. Measures

JN181208 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 18 Sep 84 p 4

[Editorial: "Near the Bottom"]

[Text] So, Shim'on Peres is travelling to Washington early next month to ask President Reagan for emergency aid to his country, the question now becomes not whether he will receive assistance, but rather how much it will be and in return for what.

Knowing the pattern — and objectives — of American policy in the Middle East, we should also know that the Reagan administration will be content with whatever economic measures the new government has already taken. In other words, Mr Reagan is most likely to just give the money and hush up. The President should not be expected to pull political strings with Peres to move the Middle East peace process forward. Not before the November elections anyway.

The dilemma for the Arabs in all of this is obvious. There should be something, somewhere, for us to do to prevent an already desparate situation from slipping further and further into hopelessness. If it takes a hardening of the Arab position to an extent where even a polarisation in the area is necessary, we should consider it. Not that we like such an eventuality; the Americans are leaving us no room to manoeuvre on this score.

Extremist Arab positions invariably serve Israel's cause, and we would be ill-advised to adopt them, the moderates amongst us will contend. The Israelis' first objective is to polarise the Middle East between East and West and they will naturally rejoice at forcing us into this corner, they will say. But what options have we really got?

Those who know Chedli Klibi, the Arab League secretary general, know the man is no hawk. How come an Arab moderate like him now calls on the Arabs to think of dropping the Fes plan of 1982 if Israel continues to ignore United Nations resolutions and scorn our rights?

Should not we take a hint from Egypt too that it might be ready to abrogate its Camp David agreements with Israel if the latter did not heed the voice of reason and was not ready for compromise with the Arabs.

'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, the Egyptian foreign minister, told parliament Sunday that his country was about to launch a new peace initiative to break the deadlock; and Egypt's new ambassador in Moscow implied (in an interview with the KUWAITI NEWS AGENCY on the same day) that Arab solidarity with Egypt was probably more important to Cairo than clinging to the Camp David accords in circumstances like these. Is not this a good enough indication for the U.S. that it is going the wrong way?

But it is not really only dropping Camp David and the Fes plan that the Arabs can threaten to do as an expression of disappointment and disgust with U.S. policies in the Middle East. We know of other forms of retaliation and boycott that we can conjure up if there is no other way. The Americans know them as well as all those who do.

Prince Hasan Receives Sudanese Envoy, Message

JN181500 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic
1445 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] Amman, 18 Sep (PETRA) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the regent, received at his office today Fathi 'Umar, former Sudanese defense minister, who conveyed a message from Sudanese President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri to His Majesty King Husayn on bilateral relations.

Karami Comments on Second Conclave Session

NC181742 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1630 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Excerpts] The ministerial conclave sessions resumed in Bikfayya at 1045 today. All the ministers attended with the exception of Minister 'Adil 'Usayran, who is abroad. Discussions at the sessions focused on all aspects of political reform, the issue of the south and its liberation, administrative reorganization, and the issue of the kidnapped persons.

Today's discussions dealt with the people nominated for the constitutional body that will be entrusted with the constitutional reform issue. Some ministers submitted the names of their nominees for this body on the premise that they agreed on them before the conclave started. It was agreed that the number of the constitutional body members be increased to 40, 20 members from each side.

The second session began at 1615 today and ended at 1845, after which Prime Minister Rashid Karami said: The Cabinet agreed that the kidnapped persons should be released, that the Justice Ministry should draw up the laws that will restore the kidnapped persons' personal status and special rights, and that it should charge the security and judicial bodies with pursuing the kidnappers and securing the resources for the committee concerned to follow up its task.

Regarding the constituent body, Karami added: Standards and conditions were laid down for the members. It was also agreed to choose the final names tomorrow, and to move on to discuss other issues. Concerning the constituent body's mission, Karami said: It is amending the Constitution in order to develop it and studying the articles that should be amended.

The agenda for tomorrow's session is based on the government policy statement and the relevant issues. As for the date of future sessions, Karami said: Tomorrow, after tomorrow, and maybe more [sessions].

Ministerial Conclaves Resume; 'Usayran Under Treatment

NC190826 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 19 Sep 84

[Text] The first session of the third day of ministerial conclaves began in Bikfayya at 1020 today under the chairmanship of President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil and in the presence of Prime Minister Rashid Karami. All the ministers arrived at the presidential summer residence in Bikfayya apart from Defense Minister 'Adil 'Usayran, who is currently in Austria for treatment.

Fifth Session Ends

NC191122 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 19 Sep 84

[Excerpt] The fifth ministerial conclave held in the presidential summer residence in Bikfayya ended at 1305 today. The information which has filtered out so far indicates that the selection of the members of the consultative body has not been completed. This afternoon's session will discuss the issues of decentralization, the citizenship law, and the legislative decrees.

The state leaders and ministers went for lunch at High Hill Hotel at the invitation of President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil.

Consultative Body Membership Shared by All Sects

NC190615 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0445 GMT 19 Sep 84

[Text] Today's information indicates that the membership of the consultative body has been distributed among the various sects as follows: Nine Maronites, five Greek Orthodox, three Roman Catholics, two Armenians, eight Shi'ites, eight Sunnites, four Druze, and one from the minority [as heard]. It has also been learned that 90 candidates will join the consultative body. It should be recalled that deputies and government officials are not entitled to be members of this body.

Junblatt: Al-Jumayyil Represents Fascist Interests

AU181554 Rome ANSA in English 1540 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] (ANSA) Milan, September 13 — There can be no peace in Lebanon as long as fascist parties are in power there, according to Druze leader Walid Junblatt in an interviewed published here today by *CORRIERE DELLA SERA*.

He saw Lebanon's President Amin al-Jumayyil as representing "the fascist interests currently in power" in the land. "We will seek to find solutions", he continued, "but I have no reason whatever to be optimistic".

Apropos of Syria's role in Lebanese affairs, Junblatt said that Damascus had an interest in seeing peace established in Lebanon but naturally did not want to see the country given over into Israeli and American hands. "For this reason Syria helps us, the Shi'ites, and all of the patriotic national forces", he told the *CORRIERE* interviewer.

Asked why Junblatt was so firmly tied to Syria, he said that many things link us: The same political line and the same objectives. "Lebanon was once an integral part of Syria". "Lebanon is an Arab country and Damascus helps us." "We cannot tolerate a Lebanese policy hostile to Syria." "We will combat the Phalange, the Army, whoever acts in an anti-Syrian way", he declared.

Turning to the question of financing, Junblatt said that his forces were seeking to find the necessary money on their own even though up until a short time ago they received money from Libya. Now Libya has cut off this flow and the Druze must find other paths, he said.

Asked for more specifics, he said that the Libyan financing had stopped six months ago but he did not want to reveal the extent of this aid.

Asked why he entered the government, Junblatt replied that it was "part of the game". "There is a big game on in Lebanon", he insisted, "and each one has his role to play". "I go to the Bikfayya conclave because I must go but I expect absolutely nothing to come of it", he told the interviewer. "I go only to offer another chance for peace", he added.

Asked to assess the multinational peace mission, Junblatt said it was a failure because it came to Lebanon talking peace and stability but then went on to aid the Phalangist regime. He said that he was speaking about the Multinational Force as a whole and not about all of the contingents that went to make it up. The Italians, for example, remained neutral throughout the mission and greatly helped the Palestinian refugees and the Lebanese population, he said.

In conclusion, Junblatt said that it is not possible to agree to a peace with the Phalangists who want their own tiny fascist state. "We are and will remain against this plan, peacefully or militarily, if necessary", he ended.

Security Plan Discussed With Syrian Delegation

NC181726 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] A meeting between a Lebanese military delegation and a Syrian military delegation was held at the presidential summer residence in Bikfayya at 1215. The meeting was chaired by Lebanese Army Commander General Michel 'Awn and General 'Ali Aslan, the Syrian deputy chief of staff. Representatives of the Progressive Socialist Party [PSP] and the Amal movement attended.

Representing the Lebanese side were Intelligence Chief Colonel Simon Qassis; Operations Chief Colonel Jean Farah; Colonel Ghassan Dahir, deputy chief of staff for operations; and Colonel Muhammad 'Adnan al-Khalil. Representing the Syrian side were Major General Sa'id Bayraqdar, commander of the Syrian forces in Lebanon, and Major General Ghazi Kan'an, intelligence chief of the Syrian forces in Lebanon. Representing the PSP were retired Lieutenant Colonel Sharif Fayyad and Akram Shuhayyib. Representing the Amal movement were Dr Muhammad Baydun, Dr Ayyub Humayyid, and 'Aql Hamiyah.

The meeting was devoted to a comprehensive discussion of the security plan in the light of the previous meetings between the Lebanese and Syrian military commands. The meeting ended at 1430, when the two delegations and the PSP and Amal movement representatives lunched at the High Hill Hotel. The two delegations resumed their meeting at 1600 in the presence of the PSP and Amal movement representatives. The meeting, at which a positive atmosphere prevailed, ended at 1720. No statements were made.

The Lebanese and Syrian military delegations will meet at the presidential summer residence in Bikfayya on 20 September, after the representatives of all sides brief their commands on today's meeting. All details of the security plan for the mountain area were discussed during today's meeting.

Al-Hashim Discusses Current Political Issues

NC141623 Beirut MONDAY MORNING in English 10-16 Sep 84 pp 48-53

[Interview of Joseph al-Hashim, Lebanese minister of posts, communications, health, and social affairs, by correspondent Donna Abu Nasr in Arabic — date and place not given]

[Excerpt] [Abu Nasr] What was your reaction when you learned of your appointment as the successor to the great man who has just left us?

[Al-Hashim] I am not a successor to Pierre Al-Jumayyil; no one can fill the void that his death has left. I see myself as continuing, to the best of my ability, Pierre al-Jumayyil's role — his message, his principles, and his political line or program. Pierre al-Jumayyil was a man of national stature, and no one can fill the void he left. I hope that, with the support of the different groups I cooperate with, I will succeed, to some extent, in carrying on what Pierre al-Jumayyil began.

[Abu Nasr] You mention Pierre al-Jumayyil's program. What is the program you will be following as a member of the Cabinet?

[Al-Hashim] On the political level everyone is familiar with the teachings of Pierre al-Jumayyil. He strove for perfection. His stand was based on principles, as was evident during the events of the past. Pierre al-Jumayyil was the first to call for the unity and independence of Lebanon. He fought for Lebanon and he underwent a baptism of blood in his struggle for a unified Lebanon. He was imprisoned for leading demonstrations for independence. Therefore, ever since Pierre al-Jumayyil started his political activities and national work, he labored to preserve the independence of Lebanon and its frontiers. The cultural formula for Lebanon, which he placed on the same level as the (importance of) the alphabet, is: a democratic Lebanon, a free Lebanon, a human Lebanon, a Lebanon where the different confessions interact.

These were the principal mottoes that Pierre al-Jumayyil launched and for which he struggled till his death, and which we are dedicated to pursuing with sincerity and honesty and to the best of our ability.

[Abu Nasr] It is reported that your appointment to this office has caused frictions with President Camille Sham'un and Minister Walid Junblatt because, as a native of the Ash-Shuf, your appointment is out of line with traditional political practice. What's your comment.

[Al-Hashim] "Caused frictions"? I don't think so, because the Phalangist Party had every right to choose its candidate for the Cabinet, just as all the other parties did. People ask whether there is an atmosphere of "clashes" (in the Cabinet); why should there be one? There are specific principles, specific stands, and specific positions. On my first day as minister, I say that I have not been appointed to raise disputed issues.

There are certain things we cannot accept, however. The least of these things is the lack of unity of ranks within the government.

I have never seen, in the history of democratic governments, such conflicting views within a cabinet. One cannot conceive how it is that some ministers are against the regime while at the same time being part of it. We cannot conceive of certain things that happened lately without pointing to them specifically.

Of course, there are certain matters which if we defended them we would be defending the rights of the Lebanese citizen, we would be defending Lebanese legitimacy.

[Abu Nasr] It is said that one of the reasons which made you eligible for this office is that you will stand in the way of political programs which ministers Birri and Junblatt will propose when the issue of political changes is raised. Another reason is said to be that there are certain matters on which President Al-Jumayyil cannot speak out, so you were chosen to speak out on them. What's your comment?

[Al-Hashim] No, never. I haven't been made a cabinet minister to be a "boxer," i.e., to deal blows. Of course, every man has his own point of view and principles, which he defends. There are the rights of the country and the rights of the citizen.

We are asked what our political proposals will be. The proposal (made at the Lausanne conference) for the setting up of a constituent assembly (which will include the effective forces on the ground) to study political reforms and reach a formula that will guarantee its acceptance by all factions — this is what we're trying to accomplish.

[Abu Nasr] Why was the name of MP Dr George Sa'adah suggested for the cabinet post you now occupy, and then withdrawn? Is it true that his appointment would have caused friction with the "north," especially with former President Sulayman Franjiyah?

[Al-Hashim] I don't think the name of Dr Sa'adah was proposed. In any case, any person who represents the Phalangists represents them all, whether it is George Sa'adah or anyone else. Anyone appointed would represent the Phalangist Party — its individual members and the party as an institution.

[Abu Nasr] Were you chosen by the party or by President Amin al-Jumayyil?

[Al-Hasim] The party chose me and the president gave his consent.

[Abu Nasr] There is speculation that your appointment was made with a view to providing a counterweight to a certain political "trend" within the Phalangist Party, or to keeping this "trend" out of the limelight. How would you reply to such speculation?

[Al-Hashim] It's neither the one thing nor the other. There are no such "trends" in the Phalangist Party, especially today. I think that the great calamity and the great void that Pierre al-Jumayyil's death left made for a greater measure of unity in individual stands.

Today, as in the past, and contrary to prevailing erroneous views, there are no trends or conflicting tendencies within the party. Today, more than ever, there is a unity of stands and objectives within the Phalangist Party.

[Abu Nasr] It is said that there are conflicts in points of view between the Phalangist Party and the leadership of the Lebanese Forces. Is this true?

[Al-Hashim] The word "struggle." immediately suggests that there is a "struggle". There might be differences in points of view and this is natural in all organizations which practice democracy. Of course, there are no conflicts between the Phalangist Party and the leadership of the Lebanese Forces, and especially today. We have all agreed that we (Phalangists and members of the Lebanese Forces) will be under the mother organization, which is the Lebanese al-Kata'ib. We have also agreed to continue the struggle to save Lebanon.

[Abu Nasr] How would you describe your relationship with the Lebanese Forces?

[Al-Hashim] It is a very good relationship.

[Abu Nasr] What is your comment on the Lebanese-Syrian summit of September 4? What are your expectantions for its outcome?

[Al-Hashim] I cannot make any hasty comments on this matter. I know that Syria is serious in its support for the legitimate Lebanese authorities and in giving help to the Lebanese state to overcome the present difficulties — the fragmentation of the legitimate authority — I mean the Army — and the dispersal of Lebanese citizens (from their homes because of the troubles).

I don't know how much we can ask of Syria at the moment and in this situation. It is known that Syria is trying to achieve a balance of forces with Israel. But I can say that Syria is serious in its support for the Lebanese state and the legitimate authorities.

[Abu Nasr] What are relations like inside the Cabinet? Sources speak of an "absence of harmony" and even of "internal earthquakes." How do things really stand?

[Al-Hashim] I don't know whether the expression "internal earthquakes" isn't too strong or too emphatic. Of course there are some conflicting views within the Cabinet over some issues, and I hope that the Cabinet will overcome personal and "narrow" considerations to start work on the peace and security process.

[Abu Nasr] It is said that your program for the return of the displaced is somehow at cross-purposes with that of former President Sham'un, who has held meetings with Minister Walid Junblatt concerning this issue. What do you say?

[Al-Hashim] There are no conflicts. But we can call it a positive "competition." When the committee for the return of the displaced was set up, we agreed (very frankly) on certain plans for the return of the displaced. Unfortunately, obligations were not fulfilled.

We are with President Sham'un if he is able to return the displaced to the mountains. If there are any conflicts between us and Walid Junblatt over this issue, I don't think that there are contradictions of purpose between us and President Sham'un. The aim is one, though the means may differ.

[Abu Nasr] What is your opinion concerning the "advice" said to have been given to the displaced not to return to the mountains since no one can guarantee their safety?

[Al-Hashim] This is true and sound to some extent — if the safety of the displaced is not guaranteed. We hope that those who give this "advice" will overcome certain differences, because finding a solution to the mountain today will be the "backbone" of Lebanon's return to normal life tomorrow — to unified Lebanon, if we are serious and sincere about what we say concerning the unified Lebanon.

[Abu Nasr] What's your opinion about the future of the Phalangist Party after Pierre al-Jumayyil? Have you faced this question yet? Is there anything to speculation that the Phalangist Party might disintegrate?

[Al-Hashim] The Phalangist Party, and all its leaders, used to depend on Pierre al-Jumayyil. Today, the efforts will be increased and there will be stronger insistence on the continuation of Pierre al-Jumayyil's "process" through the organization which he set up. His absence, bitter though it is, will act as a spur to the Phalangist leadership so that Pierre al-Jumayyil will be victorious twice, once in his lifetime and once in his immortality.

UNIFIL Commander Invited To Meet With Rabin

NC181325 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] It has been learned from UNIFIL sources that UNIFIL Commander General William Callaghan has received an invitation from Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin to visit Israel and discuss the question of the expansion of UNIFIL's area of deployment in southern Lebanon so that UNIFIL may replace the Israeli forces when they withdraw.

Delegation To Leave for Moscow 19 Sep

NC190618 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0445 GMT 19 Sep 84

[Text] A Lebanese delegation will leave for Moscow today. The delegation, which is led by [former] Prime Minister Taqiy al-Din al-Sulh, includes former Minister Michel Iddih, Dr Nasib al-Barbir, Dr Albert Mansur, Dr 'Abd al-Rahman al-Labban, 'Akif Haydar, Fu'ad Salman, In'am Ra'd, and Ghassan al-Dayah.

VOL Reports 'Violent' Clashes in Tripoli 18 Sep

NC190533 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0415 GMT 19 Sep 84

[Text] Tension prevails in Tripoli today following 2-hours of violent clashes last night which involved Al-Qubbah, Al-Sha'rani, Al-Amirikan, and Al-Bakkar. The clashes broke out on the eve of the preparations taken to implement the provisions of the political-security agreement between the Islamic grouping and the Arab Democratic Party leadership under the auspices of Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam.

VOAL: Finnish UNIFIL Contingent Attacked

NC150600 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 0430 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Text] The Finnish contingent operating within UNIFIL has been the target of a new attack by the agent militias. A Finnish position was attacked and its weapons and vehicles were seized. UNIFIL forces were subsequently placed on alert and contacts started between the UNIFIL command and the militias command with the participation of Zionist officers. These contacts resulted in an agreement that the Norwegian and Israeli forces will take over the responsibilities of the Finnish contingent between Ibil al-Saqy Valley and the approaches of Qawkabah between 1800 and 0600.

VOAL Says Phalangist Boat Fired at Al-Rawshah

NC150605 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 0430 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Text] Informed security sources disclosed to the Voice of Arab Lebanon that the gunboat which approached the military beach at Al-Rawshah last night belonged to the Phalangist militias and that it sailed from Al-Jiyah port escorted by two Zionist gunboats. The sources added that the purpose of firing at the citizens, restaurants, and swimming pools in Al-Rawshah was to create fear and confusion and to intimidate the citizens in Islamic and national Beirut because they did not participate in the celebration which took place in the eastern areas yesterday marking the second anniversary of the assassination of Bashir al-Jumayyil.

VOL Reports Palestinian Demonstrations in Camps

NC171210 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1126 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Text] Sharp differences erupted between loyalist and dissident Palestinian organizations following the demonstrations that took place in the Sabra and Shatila camps.

During these demonstrations, the demonstrators cheered for the long life of dissident Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha], while denouncing 'Arafat and accusing him of being a traitor.

AFP on Protests

NC171126 Paris AFP in English 1120 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Text] Beirut, Sep 17 (AFP) — More than 10,000 demonstrators today marched through the Sabra and Shatila refugee camps here to mark the second anniversary of the massacre of unarmed Palestinians by Lebanese Christian militiamen.

The demonstrators, mainly Palestinians, took the main road running through the camps, waving photos of the victims and banners marked with pro-Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) slogans.

The massacres in which hundreds of camp dwellers were killed began on September 16, 1982, while Israeli troops were occupying West Beirut.

The demonstration was the largest show of Palestinian strength in Beirut since the PLO's forced evacuation of the capital in August 1982.

(In Jerusalem, Israeli military sources reported clashes in parts of the West Bank between Israeli forces and Palestinian demonstrators commemorating the camp massacres.)

The Beirut demonstration was organized by a coalition of leftist Palestinian groups and included participation by Fatah, the commando headed by PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat.

Demonstrators also called for the liberation of south Lebanon from Israeli troops.

Lebanese and Palestinian officials were to speak before the mass grave, located at the southern entrance to the Shatila camp, where victims of the massacre were buried.

There are some 23,000 Palestinians still residing in Beirut camps, and most are still hoping to leave the country.

According to the director of Shatila, some 10 percent of Beirut camp inhabitants have sought refuge in Europe. He said many Arab countries had refused them visas.

Pro-'Arafat Men Distribute Weapons

NC170859 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0815 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Text] Within the framework of the occasionally overt and occasionally covert struggle between the pro-'Arafat and dissident Palestinian organizations, it has been learned that the pro-'Arafat Palestinian leadership today continued to distribute weapons among loyalists in the Sabra and Shatila camps. This comes in the wake of demonstrations which took place in the two camps yesterday, denouncing Yasir 'Arafat and calling for support for Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha].

Briefs

New Envoy From Algeria — Prime Minister Rashid Karami today received new Algerian ambassador to Lebanon, 'Abd al-Karim Gharib, who presented a copy of his credentials. It was also an occasion to review bilateral relations. [Excerpt] [*Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 14 Sep 84 NC*]

Doha Cites Defense Minister Talas on Gulf War

GF181320 Doha Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text]Syrian Defense Minister Brigadier General Mustafa Talas was quoted as saying that the 4-year-old war between Iraq and Iran will immediately end if Iraq announces the resuscitation of the unity agreement with Syria which was signed in 1978. In a statement published by the Lebanese magazine *AL-SAYYAD*, he said that Iran cannot fight Syria and Iraq together. He added that President Hafiz al-Asad moved from the very beginning to end this devastating war. Brigadier General Talas went on to say that Syria interceded with Iran to prevent the expansion of the fighting and it so far has succeeded in that. Brigadier General Talas then accused the United States of kindling the Iraqi-Iranian war. He said that this war prevents the Iraqi Army from being stationed on the eastern front against Israel; moreover this also prevents Iran from helping to liberate Jerusalem.

Damascus Reports on Tripoli Agreement

JN181251 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] Damascus — Leaders of the Islamic Grouping and the Arab Democratic Party have met in Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam's office. After discussing Lebanon's political and security situation and Tripoli's crisis and its causes, complete agreement was reached on removing all armed manifestations and collecting all weapons. It was also agreed to collect all types of heavy and medium weapons from Tripoli and its environs under the protection of the security force and the Deterrent Force and under the supervision of the Higher Coordination Committee in Tripoli until a comprehensive political solution is perfected in Lebanon.

The agreement also stipulates that a unit from the Army and internal security, supported by a unit of the Deterrent Force, should assume responsibility for preserving security in Tripoli and its environs. Responsibility for security and enforcement of law shall be assumed by the state's local institutions and their security apparatus. The state's local institutions shall assume full responsibilities. It was also agreed that the Higher Coordination Committee in Tripoli should charge additional duties on the goods imported or exported via ports.

The agreement stipulates that work should commence immediately to prepare for a national reconciliation conference with the participation of the Higher Coordination Committee.

The two sides thanked President Hafiz al-Asad for his interest in ending the critical situation in Tripoli. They also highly appreciated Syria's historic role under his leadership in confronting the Israeli occupation and helping Lebanon restore its unity and achieve peace and security for its people.

This agreement was concluded so that Tripoli can restore its stability and security on firmly established bases and so that all causes of fabricated tension and explosion among the people and parts of the one city can be removed.

Islamic Spokesman on Agreement

JN181911 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1700 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Interview with Engineer 'Abdallah Babikki, spokesman of the Tripoli Islamic Grouping, by Radio Monte Carlo correspondent Louis Faris in Damascus — date not specified; recorded]

[Text] [Louis Faris] How do you evaluate the significance of today's agreement?

['Abdallah Babikki] This agreement has in fact been the result of the intensive efforts that we began in Tripoli and Beirut and which ended in Damascus. We consider ourselves satisfied with this agreement because it was reached directly with the other party and under the auspices of the Syrian leadership, which we believe will guarantee this agreement. We are returning to Tripoli to implement all of these articles on firm ground for the sake of Tripoli's security and stability, God willing.

[Faris] Do you think that all the articles in this agreement will be implemented?

[Babikki] Naturally, we hope this will happen. We are of the view that the current convictions and measures will help us implement the articles of today's agreement.

[Faris] The agreement includes a number of broad points. Have you been able to reach an agreement on details?

[Babikki] To implement this agreement, we will have to deal with details. In fact, we agreed on dealing with these details after meeting with Prime Minister Karami to brief him and begin implementing these broad points. The most important difficulty we may face will be the appointment of the Lebanese Army representative to the joint committee as well as the representatives of the Islamic Grouping and the Arab Democrtic Party. This committee will then define the areas where the heavy and medium weapons are stored. It will also define the security tasks of the operating force. When we return to Tripoli, we must issue a statement signed by the Islamic Grouping and the Arab Democratic Party informing the citizens that calm will be restored to the city and that measures will be implemented in the city. The most important of these measures are collecting heavy and medium weapons, preventing the formation of armed manifestations, and removing roadblocks from Tripoli's streets. This program will ultimately end in a national reconciliation in which all the Tripoli functionaries will take part. This reassures us of Tripoli's future.

[Faris] It has been rumored that differences arose over the type of heavy weapons that are to be collected. Has this problem been ironed out?

[Babikki] Yes. Agreement was reached to collect heavy and medium weapons. What was mentioned in the agreement is clear to both parties. The mutual trust that has been established between the Islamic Grouping and the Arab Democratic Party in reaching the Tripoli agreement will also be employed in collecting weapons, first from the (?West); and also to remove the causes of (?mistrust) from our hearts, God willing.

[Faris] Frankly speaking, do you not expect an armed or non-armed opposition to this agreement from those parties that have been harmed by it?

[Babikki] We cannot be sure that such parties will exercise opposition. However, the Damascus agreement and the Syrian guarantee as well as cooperation with Prime Minister Karami and the northern coordination body will prevent any action by these parties.

[Faris] Have all the Islamic Grouping parties, including the Islamic Unification Movement, approved this agreement?

[Babikki] Naturally, they approve. They were represented by 'Allush, who signed the agreement, as well as by Shaykh Hashim. Therefore we consider the agreement to be signed by all the Islamic grouping parties.

[Faris] Therefore, you are optimistic about the implementation?

[Babikki] God willing.

Junblatt, Delegation Arrive

JN182048 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 2030 GMT 18 Sep 84

[From the "Panorama" program]

[Text] Lebanese Minister Walid Junblatt arrived in Damascus this evening. He was accompanied by a delegation comprising former ministers Marwan Hamadah and Khalid Junblatt as well as Faruq al-Barbir, who represents Minister Salim al-Huss. They were immediately received by Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam who conferred with them for 1 hour during which they reviewed and evaluated the discussions that were held in the Bikfayya conclaves today.

Al-Asad, PDRY President Resume Talks

JN181256 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] Damascus — President Hafiz al-Asad and PDRY President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad at 1115 this morning, resumed the talks that began yesterday, in a closed meeting at the presidential palace in Al-Muhajirin. The talks dealt with the situation in the region, the developments in the Arab arena, and the requirements to bolster the struggle of the Arab national liberation movement and confront the imperialist and Zionist schemes hostile to the Arab nation and its pan-Arab issues. The talks also dealt with bilateral relations and the means of promoting them in the various fields.

PDRY President Departs

JN181352 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Excerpts] PDRY President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his delegation left Damascus at 1400 today after a 2-day cordial visit to Syria. President Hafiz al-Asad was at the head of those who saw President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad off at Damascus International Airport.

In a pre-departure statement to the press, President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad said: As I leave Syria, I have pleasure in expressing my deep appreciation for the generosity and hospitality that the leaders of fraternal Syria have accorded us during our visit. This visit was an opportunity to discuss matters and consult our brothers in Syria, particularly Brother President Hafiz al-Asad, on a number of issues related to reinforcing and developing bilateral relations between our parties and countries in the political, economic, and cultural spheres. We also discussed the current developments in the Arab and international arenas and coordinated our stands toward these developments in the service of pan-Arab liberation issues for which our Arab people struggle.

President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad added: Our visit was successful. The coming period will witness further development in our bilateral relations in light of the positive results of this visit which came as an extension to the visits exchanged by the leaders of the two fraternal countries. We found that our brothers in steadfast Syria are determined to continue strengthening and entrenching the principles of militant alliance between our parties and countries within the framework of our joint efforts aimed at mobilizing and uniting our resources to confront conspiratorial schemes and aggressive military moves of the imperialist-Zionist alliance forces in the Arab region. We are confident that our Arab people are capable of confronting all aggressive and expansionist challenges, thanks to the heroic steadfastness of Syria and its militant people, the assiduous struggle waged by the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese will, and the will of confrontation showed by our people and their national and progressive forces and regimes supported by the forces of liberation, socialism, and peace in the world which back the legitimate Arab rights, particularly the USSR and the socialist countries.

Economic Talks With Jordan Held in Damascus

JN190846 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 19 Sep 84 pp 28, 24

[Excerpts] Damascus — PETRA — Muhammad al-Hurani, industry and trade under secretary, met here yesterday with Dr Salim Yasin, Syrian minister of economy and foreign trade, and Dr Taha Bali, assistant economy minister. In a statement to a PETRA correspondent in Damascus, Al-Hurani said that during the two meetings the spheres of economic and trade cooperation between Jordan and Syria and the ways to promote them were discussed. He added that the Syrian side expressed its desire to exert all necessary efforts to promote bilateral trade exchange and overcome all difficulties in this regard. Al-Hurani returned to Amman yesterday evening.

Foreign Minister Confers With UN's Urquhart

JN181817 Damascus Televison Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' received UN Assistant Secretary General Brian Urquhart in his office this evening. The

meeting was attended by Fathi al-Masri, head of the Organizations Desk at the Foreign Ministry. The talks dealt with the current situation in Lebanon and the United Nations' role in helping to achieve an unconditional Israel withdrawal from Lebanese territory.

AL-THAWRAH on 'Arafat's Call for Recognizing Israel

JN150756 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0345 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Press review]

[Text] Under the headline "'Arafat's Message to Peres," the newspaper *AL-THAWRAH* says in a comment yesterday: In a statement he made after the Peres government had won the Zionist Knesset's vote of confidence, 'Arafat told a Belgian magazine that he was ready to hold negotiations on the recognition of the Zionist entity. 'Arafat was not satisfied with this national and pan-Arab treason, but also declared his denunciation of all acts of Arab resistance against Zionist aggression and occupation of our territory. It is obvious that by these statements, 'Arafat has dealt a new blow to the Palestine question, the PNC resolutions, and Arab struggle. It is no coincidence that 'Arafat made these statements just after Peres had formed the new Israeli Government. By these statements, 'Arafat is addressing a direct message to Peres in which he expresses his readiness to negotiate with him, to recognize Israel, and to abide by the Camp David accords.

AL-THAWRAH continues: By taking another step on the path of treason on the very eve of the anniversary of the Sabra and Shatila massacres, perpetrated by the Zionist enemy and its agents, 'Arafat has severed all his links with the Palestine question, removed the mask that concealed his face, and appeared in his true image as one of the tools of the policy of capitulation and liquidation. This means that confronting the 'Arafat line and its danger to the Palestine question has become an urgent national and pan-Arab task. We must take action before the 'Arafat line succeeds in dealing a fatal blow to the cause.

'Arafat, who had no scruples about meeting with the Zionists covertly and overtly, is now making the most dangerous call for negotiating with and recognizing Israel through a new treasonous step, whose main objective is to propogate the Zionist plan and to slaughter the Palestine question with 'Arafat's knife after it became impossible to slaughter it with Sadat's knife. This calls for containing the new plot and overthrowing its instrument as well as exposing this instrument's treasonous, dangerous role against Palestinian struggle and the Palestine quesiton.

TISHRIN Assails 'Arafat's Call For Direct Talks

JN161134 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0800 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] *TISHRIN* Today wonders about 'Arafat's eagerness to meet and negotiate with the Israelis, particularly with Shim'on Peres' government. Immediately after this government was formed, 'Arafat announced his willingness to negotiate and his acceptance of the organization's eventual recognition of the Zionist state.

TISHRIN cites 'Arafat as saying to the Belgian *NORD SUD* magazine: We agree to participate in direct negotiations with the Israelis. We are willing to do so.

TISHRIN says: The observer may ask why this 'Arafat eagerness at a time when most world capitals, even Amman, are expressing reservation toward the new Israeli Government and expressing fear that this government might be dragged into aggressive designs against the Arabs?

The paper adds: The Zionist officials, regardless of their trends, do not recognize any Palestinian representation beyond the village leagues unless 'Arafat has already joined these leagues. Also, as far as we know, nothing has changed in the U.S. Administration's stand on Israel and the Palestinian people's rights as evident from the statements of King Husayn and the Jordanian officials.

TISHRIN says: Thus, from this standpoint 'Arafat cannot hope to be more than the new Al-Sadat in the region except that Al-Sadat was the president of Egypt, the biggest Arab country, who exchanged Palestine's Arabism and the entire Arab nation for the sands of Sinai and a limited sovereignty. As far as 'Arafat is concerned, he will remain, in the eyes of the Israelis, a doubtful leader of an organization which they call a terrorist organization and therefore he is not suitable to be a negotiating side.

TISHRIN concludes: Negotiating for the sake of negotiating, which is 'Arafat's motto, will ultimately mean the liquidation of the Palestinian cause and the rifle that defends it. Moreover, negotiating for the sake of negotiating is an open attempt to end the Palestinian revolution, a treacherous blow to Arab steadfastness, and a clear move to isolate the pan-Arab struggle led by Syria in cooperation with the honorable Palestinian and Lebanese forces and the Arab liberation forces. It is also another deceptive maneuver by 'Arafat to strike at the Palestinian people's sacrifices.

AL-BA'TH Views New Israeli 'War Cabinet'

JN160917 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0345 GMT 16 Sep 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "What Does the New Israeli Ministerial Configuration Mean?" *AL-BA'TH* says: A first reading of the names of the members of the new Israeli Cabinet makes the Arab citizen recall the acts of terror, oppression, and expansion carried out by the Zionist entity against the Arab nation since it was established on our Arab land by the imperialist forces. If we review the list of Peres government, we will find that most of the names on it are generals. This simply means that the region will experience a state of extreme tension, troubles, and policies of aggression and expansion. The configuration of the new Cabinet really shows that it is a war cabinet because, in the main, it consists of those who have participated in aggression against the Arabs. They too were the ones who had participated in the establishment of the racist Zionist entity.

The Arab citizen must not forget that the Peres government has been formed in wake of a series of contacts and consultations between the Israeli parties and the U.S. Administration.

AL-BA'TH stresses that before the formation of this governemnt, Western and Zionist political circles had claimed that if Peres forms the future Israeli Government, it will be the government that will settle the crisis the region has been experiencing as a result of the continued Zionist occupation of Arab territories. In wake of the formation of the new Zionist government, it has been ascertained that all these claims are mere illusions which are not substantiated by facts and that they are part of the current U.S.-Israeli solutions.

AL-BA'TH concludes by saying that what confirms this is the announcement by the Labor and Likud parties that they are determined to pursue the process of settlements in the occupied Arab territories.

AL-BA'TH Reacts to Rabin's Remarks on War

JN171000 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0345 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Press review]

[Text] Commenting on the threats of new Zionist war minister Yitzhaq Rabin, and under the headline "Rabin Boasts Sharon's Logic," the newspaper *AL-BA'TH* writes: Yitzhaq Rabin inaugurated his new post in the same manner as Sharon. Rabin sees no alternative to war. He publicly stressed that the next war will be only against Syria. The Zionist war minister sees no stauncher enemy of Israel than Syria. Thus, he is announcing that the team of Arab capitulation has widened and that the opportunity presents itself to Israel to impose whatever it wishes and to settle on any Arab land it desires as long as the U.S. shells and most sophisticated weapons are at the disposal of the Zionist army.

By threatening a forcible war, Rabin stresses that the Zionists do not intend to withdraw from Lebanon and that the coming stage is the stage of inevitable collision.

The paper adds: We admit that Rabin serves his Zionist objectives and that he, like the rest of the Israeli Army, is a fighter in the first U.S. Army Corps. We do not see why Rabin should abstain from blaring whatever threats he wants, but at the same time we are confident and convinced that Rabin's fantasies today are unlike those of the 1960's and that yesterday's realities, which Rabin is trying to entrench, conflict with today's realities. We agree with Rabin and the Israeli armed unity government that Syria is the mortal enemy of both Israel and world Zionism, but we do not believe that the Zionists can subjugate Syria to blackmail and military pressures. We also do not approve of Israel's encroachment on Arab rights. Syria will remain the major Arab power that will restore the usurped rights.

If Rabin has forgotten the Agranat Committee, we think he has become aware of many of the problems from which the Zionist soldiers are suffering in southern Lebanon. Rabin may have imagined that we in this steadfast and struggling country have forgotten his strategy which says that any negotiations over the occupied Arab territories must be turned into negotiations over new territories to be occupied by Israel. Thus, the Israeli expansion continues at a time when the defeatists and renegades believe that negotiations with Israel are feasible.

Concluding, *AL-BA'TH* says: Israel withdrew from Sinai only because it withdrew Egypt from its Arab fold and because it entrusted the same Israeli tasks to the U.S. forces. This renders the Camp David negotiations not peace negotiations but Israel's way of expanding eastward in Lebanon and Jordan toward the Euphrates. Syria realizes all this and reminds Rabin that it is determined to reverse his fantasies and expectations. Israel considered its strategic alliance with the United States a threatening factor against the Arabs in general and Syria in particular. We in this steadfast country consider this alliance between imperialism and Zionism as normal and cannot be established except through the weakness of one of the two allies toward the new facts imposed by Syria on the ground. All that Rabin has to do is to try his luck to be convinced.

AL-THAWRAH Praises Lebanese Minsterial Conclaves

JN180911 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0345 GMT 18 Sep 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Will Efforts Be United To Complete Lebanon's Salvation?" *AL-THAWRAH* says: The ministerial conclaves which the Lebanese Government began yesterday acquired special importance not because they are an objective in themselves, but because they are a means to achieve a more comprehensive goal that embodies Lebanon's anxieties and its people's aspirations and also defines the way leading to these aspirations.

AL-THAWRAH continues: Thus, the ministerial conclaves are a chance to clear the air of any tension in the Lebanese arena that stems from mere minor differences.

AL-THAWRAH concludes: Problems of this size naturally require large and complicated duties that cannot be fulfilled or implemented unless all Lebanese efforts are unified on the basis of salvaging Lebanon with a unified stand that aims at serving Lebanon and its national interest; liberating its land from the Israeli occupation; and drawing up its future which guarantees its sovereignty, independence, Arabism, and unity of land and people.

The national unity government is the only tool that can assume these tasks. Therefore, the ministerial conclaves should be an expression of this government's unity and efforts as well as an effective and basic means for solving Lebanon's problems and bringing about its salvation.

Peres, Basyuni Discuss Relations With Egypt

TA181747 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1505 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Excerpt] Egyptian Charge d'Affaires Muhammad Basyuni today conveyed a message from President Mubarak to the newly-installed government in Israel during a meeting he held with Prime Minister Shim'on Peres this afternoon.

Basyuni said the three conditions for thawing relations between Israel and Egypt are as follows: an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon, an improvement in Israel's relations with the Palestinians, and the resumption of negotiations over Tabah. Our correspondent Moshe Hakohen reports on the Peres-Basyuni meeting:

[Begin recording] [Hakohen] The establishment of the national unity government in Israel under Shim'on Peres did not lead to a change in Cairo's conditions for thawing bilateral relations. This became known in the course of the meeting between the Egyptian charge d'affaires in Israel and the prime minister.

Muhammad Basyuni brought Shim'on Peres a polite, congratulatory message from President Mubarak to the new Israeli Government, which includes an expression of the hope that the government will be able to make what were called decisions that will remove obstacles from the path of the peace process.

The ball is now in Israel's court, Basyuni told correspondents who awaited him at the entrance to the prime minister's office. He detailed Cairo's conditions to thaw the cold peace:

[Basyuni — in English] Withdrawal from Lebanon; build the confidence of the Palestinian people in the West Bank; start negotiations about Tabah.

[Hakohen] Withdrawing the IDF from Lebanon, taking steps to improve Israel's relations with the Palestinians, and launching negotiations over Tabah are Egypt's demands. Cairo regards their fulfillment as a precondition for thawing relations, and certainly considers them a must in preparation for a Peres-Mubarak meeting, the Egyptian charge d'affaires said.

At the same time, he hinted that following an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon, the return of the Egyptian ambassador to Tel Aviv might be considered feasible.

Basyuni strongly rejected reports on statements attributed to Egypt's ambassador to Moscow, that Cairo might consider canceling the Camp David accords if this could result in the improvement of ties with the Arab world.

[Basyuni — in English] Camp David...[Basyuni changes thought] you know that Egypt and Israel insist on the basis of Camp David.

[Hakohen] He said: The Camp David accords have remained the basis for the peace process in the region, but if an alternative plan is suggested and is acceptable to Egypt and Israel, as well as the other groups connected to the issue, Egypt would welcome it.

Peres Sends Message to Mubarak

TA190650 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 19 Sep 84 p 1

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres yesterday sent a personal message to Egypt's President Mubarak, apparently signaling the new Israeli Government's hopes for a thaw in the "cold peace."

Peres's aides declined to discuss the contents of the message. They confirmed, though, that it represents an indication of Peres's desire for a dialogue with the Egyptian leader.

Peres' message came in reply to a note of greeting from Mubarak, delivered by the Egyptian charge d'affaires, Muhammad Basyuni.

Resumption of Dialogue Seen

TA181959 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] The dialogue between the Egyptian Administration and the Israeli Government may resume soon. This was the assessment voiced this evening by political circles in Jerusalem. The Egyptian charge d'affaires in Israel, Muhammad Basyuni, conferred with Prime Minister Shim'on Peres and with Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin this evening. Basyuni repeated Egypt's position that only after the IDF withdraws from Lebanon will it be possible to discuss thawing the cold peace between Israel and Egypt. Basyuni will depart for Cairo this evening to report on his talks in Jerusalem to administration leaders in Egypt.

Finance Minister Postpones Visit to U.S.

TA181606 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Excerpt] Yitzhaq Moda'i has postponed his trip to the United States. He announced that he would stay in Israel to fight for the implementation of his economic plan. During his visit to the United States, Shim'on Peres will therefore be asked to tackle economic issues as well.

Cause of Delay Suggested

TA181948 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Excerpt] Yitzhaq Moda'i has postponed his visit to the United States because U.S. Administration officials have recommended that Israel not send an official representative for economic talks until the emergency economic plan has been implemented.

Need for Greater Effort Seen

TA181655 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] The finance minister has concluded that Israel will be forced to make even greater efforts than he had originally

thought to get itself out of the economic crisis. This was his impression following a meeting with U.S. Ambassador Samuel Lewis. According to Minister Moda'i, the Americans believe that only we can help ourselves, and that no outside body will save us. Our correspondent Me'ir Einstein reports that Minister Moda'i was speaking at the annual meeting of industrialists in Tel Aviv. He attacked the industrialists who have recently raised the prices of the goods they sell beyond the rise of the index, and noted that the economic plan he is devising will include ways of supervising and regulating prices.

Moda'i on Economy, U.S. Aid

TA181705 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1505 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Interview with Finance Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i by Uri Ginosar at the Accadia Hotel in Herzliyya, following the minister's address to the industrialists at their annual meeting, on 18 September — live]

[Text] [Ginosar] Minister Moda'i, what is your message to the industrialists? One of the things you said was: In my meeting with U.S. Ambassador Samuel Lewis about an hour ago, I found out that we will have to bear a far larger share of the burden than I had originally thought. What exactly did you mean?

[Moda'i] It is all very simple. If we do not help ourselves, no one will. Not because they do not want to, but because they cannot. No one can substitute for the entire country and its citizens.

[Ginosar] Does that mean that the United States is presenting Israel with conditions, namely: You must take certain economic steps in order for the United States to continue — or increase — its aid?

[Moda'i] I think it would take real nerve to think otherwise. Does the United States owe us anything? The United States will help us in accordance with its own considerations, not ours. The people of Israel, all of us, should realize this. If we do not help ourselves, should the hard-working American citizen help the Israeli citizen, many of whom do not work all that hard?

[Ginosar] Mr Moda'i, Industry and Trade Minister Ari'el Sharon — who appeared here a while ago — said that one of the objectives he sees is an increase in exports and greater investments. The industrialists have consequently approached you with a request that you refrain from harming industry. What message do you have for the industrialists?

[Moda'i] No one is hurting industry. On the contrary, I merely said that the milking cow known as the state budget has found that its udders have dried up, so that we should rely less on government grants, and more on industry itself.

Inflation Seen Out of Control

TA190524 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 19 Sep 84

[Text] Treasury and Bank of Israel officials admit that they have completely lost control over inflation. Officials in these two institutions told our correspondent Gadi Sukenik that inflation is no longer under control, and the cost of living index continues to rise without reflecting the seasonal drops of former years. Almost all of this year's indexes are double those of last year.

Editorial Views Visit, Economy

TA190650 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 19 Sep 84 p 8

[Editorial: "Peres Goes to Washington"]

[Text] Israel-U.S. meetings at the highest government level have become a regular and frequent feature over the years. The times when an Israeli prime minister, even of the stature of David Ben-Gurion, had to wait nine years — from 1951 until 1960 — before he could come to Washington are long passed.

These frequent top-level talks between American and Israel Government leaders are a true reflection of the special relationship which has developed between the two countries over the past 20 years. The political changes in Israel during the past year — Prime Minister Menahem Begin's resignation, the elections and now the formation of a new national unity government — account for the fact that 10 months have passed since an Israeli premier went to Washington. This was the visit of then Premier Yitzhaq Shamir towards the end of last year. This in itself had been much delayed, following the last-minute postponement by Mr Begin earlier in the year.

Meanwhile, much as happened in this part of the world, while Israel's economy has gone from bad to worse. That, apparently, is also the main reason for the decision of Prime Minister Shim'on Peres — as approved at the first session of the national unity government on Sunday — to go to Washington in the first month of his premiership. It will be an unprecedented visit in some ways in that it will take place exactly four weeks before the American presidential election. But, as U.S. Ambassador Samuel Lewis aptly put it, a visit to Washington by Israeli dignitaries, even so close to elections, is different because of the two countries' special relationship.

Yet, the unique timing of Premier Peres' visit will impose certain restraints on its very nature, making it a brief "working visit" with limited public exposure. The national unity character of Israel's new government will be properly represented, since Vice Premier and Foreign Minister Shamir will be joining Mr Peres in the summit talks at the White House.

The talks in Washington by Israel's top leaders in about three weeks' time, presuppose that by then the government will have begun to implement stringent economic measures as a first step towards extricating Israel from its severe economic crisis. That is a prior condition for considering Israel's expected request for additional, extraordinary American assistance beyond the $2.6 billion already pledged in military and civilian aid.

Finance Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i, who has postponed his own visit to Washington so as to be able to oversee the economic recovery plan at home, indicated yesterday that Washington's expectations of Israel's austerity measures are larger and more

stringent than what the government was thinking of doing. This followed his meeting yesterday with Ambassador Lewis; it seems that the message of Israel's near-total dependence on Washington had apparently been driven home.

That means that Mr Peres' and Mr Shamir's meetings with President Ronald Reagan and Secretary of State George Shultz (who has taken a special interest in Israel's economic predicament), are likely to invite all sorts of pressures from which Washington held back pending formation of a new, stable government in Jerusalem.

But it also means that, before Israel can expect any more aid to help tide it over the economic crisis, it must first put its own house in order. The fact that Jerusalem and Washington are likely now to find more common ground on other pressing issues, such as the early withdrawal from Lebanon, will not change this stark reality.

Concern Expressed Over Free Trade Zone Accord

TA181953 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] There is increasing opposition in the U.S. Senate to approving the agreement on a free trade zone area with Israel as it is presently worded. Our correspondent Elimelekh Ram reports that in a debate held tonight, many senators demanded that changes be introduced in the text, the main one being that the agreement not include Israeli textile products.

Israeli circles have expressed concern over this development, but hope that the administration — which supports the accord — will gain the upper hand, so that the agreement will be ratified with no changes to the present text.

Rabin Meets Norwegian Defense Minister

TA190954 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0945 GMT 19 Sep 84

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin this morning met the Norwegian defense minister in his office in Tel Aviv. In their meeting, it was assessed that the Norwegian unit in UNIFIL will fulfill a central role in keeping order in southern Lebanon following the IDF's withdrawal from its positions.

Herut Committee To Decide Deputy Appointments

TA181650 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] The Herut Knesset faction has decided that Ministers Levi, Arens and Sharon — in coordination with Yitzhaq Shamir — will decide on the appointments of deputy ministers. It was also decided that Ministers Levi and Arens will decide who will represent Herut in the Knesset institutions and committees.

Our correspondent Amnon Nadav reports that the debate on this issue lasted for approximately 6 hours.

Ambassador in Paris Confers With French Premier

TA181821 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] Israel's ambassador to Paris conferred with the French premier this evening. This was the first meeting between an Israeli official and the French premier since Laurent Fabius was appointed to his post. At the end of the meeting, Ambassador 'Ovadya Sofer said that Fabius had expressed his personal commitment to strengthening bilateral relations.

Al-Khidr Curfew Lifted; Suspects Detained

TA181819 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] Security forces have lifted the curfew imposed on the village of Al-Khidr near Bethlehem following the attack on an Egged bus last night. The curfew on the refugee camp of Al-Duhayshah, near the site of the incident, had been lifted earlier. Nevertheless, IDF soldiers are still patrolling the refugee camp and the village of Al-Khidr. The security forces are pursuing their investigation and several suspects have been detained.

Arab Pupils Arrested For Illegal Demonstration

TA181255 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1232 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] At noon, hundreds of pupils of the village of 'Ar'ara in the Nahal 'Iron area held an illegal demonstration on the main road near the village to mark the anniversary of the Sabra and Shatila massacre. The police have arrested 15 people for interrogation and criminal files have been opened on each of them. In addition, the police are seeking warrants to arrest some of the school's teachers on suspicion of inciting the pupils to demonstrate.

Shi'ites Want To Join South Lebanese Army

TA181647 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1433 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] Forty-four youths, most of them Shi'ites from Tyre and its environs, have announced their intention of joining the army of southern Lebanon. A delegation of notables from Tyre has told IDF officers that they would like the youths to serve in their hometown, an area notorious for its hostility toward the IDF. Our correspondent in the north Menahem Horowitz reports that 35 soldiers have graduated from a course that trains them to become commanders of units in the army of southern Lebanon, the first such course of its kind. The graduation ceremony took place at the army of southern Lebanon's training base.

Herzliyya Police Detain 200 Arab Workers

TA190846 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 19 Sep 84

[Text] More than 200 Arab workers were detained this morning in Herzliyya. They were released several hours later, after being registered at the police station. Our correspondent Yaffa Glick reports that policemen and municipal inspectors rounded up the Arabs where they assemble every morning to wait for work offers.

The municipality has said that the aim of this operation is to relocate the meeting place outside the residential area. The police in Herzliyya maintain that the Arab workers constitute a safety and security hazard. The municipality also says that it will continue to send inspectors each morning to prevent the workers from awaiting employment offers in the center of the city.

New Crossing To Be Opened at Lebanese Border

TA191002 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 19 Sep 84 p 5

[Ya'ir 'Amiqam report]

[Excerpt] Another border crossing between Israel and Lebanon will soon be opened near Biranit, which is located halfway between Metulla and Kefar Rosh Haniqra.

This border crossing has been operating for several weeks, but will be complete only once the preparatory works are finished. Slated for completion within a month are a branch of Bank Hapo'alim, a clinic, an office of the Trade and Commerce Ministry, a customs station, and a branch of AGREXCO.

Correction of Unity Government Cabinet List

The Jerusalem GOVERNMENT PRESS OFFICE in English on 13 September publishes a list of the ministers included in the national unity government. This list has been compared to the list broadcast by Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew on 14 September, published in the 14 September Middle East & Africa DAILY REPORT, page I 3, column 2, paragraph 1. The GOVERNMENT PRESS OFFICE report corrects Yitzhaq Shamir's title to "alternate" prime minister, vice "acting" prime minister.

Franco-African Summit To Be Held 11-12 Dec
AB141831 Paris AFP in French 1725 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Text] Bujumbura, 14 Sep (AFP) — Guy Penne, President Francois Mitterrand's special adviser for African affairs, said on Friday evening, before leaving the Burundi capital for Bangui, Central African Republic, that the Franco-African summit conference will be held in Bujumbura on 11 and 12 December this year. Mr Penne added that each country may develop its own particular theme during the conference, but that "the major theme would be economics." Earlier, the French president's adviser was received by the President of the Republic of Burundi, Colonel Jean-Baptiste Bagaza.

ALGERIA

Chad Foreign Minister Arrives, Makes Statement

LD182037 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] Chad Foreign Minister Gouara Lassou arrived in Algiers this afternoon. In a statement to the national press on his arrival, he said: The withdrawal of foreign forces from Chad should be real and comprehensive and there should be guarantees that they will not return; only then can we express our satisfaction.

He added that the situation in Chad is influenced by a number of factors. If an agreement has been signed between Paris and Tripoli on withdrawing from Chad, then the Chad Government stresses the need for a total and comprehensive withdrawal, with guarantees for the nonreturn of their forces. Only then can the Chad Government express its satisfaction.

In reply to a question concerning the position of Ndjamena toward the just cause of the Saharan people, he underlined the support of his country for the just struggle of the Saharan people, and its hostility toward expansionist actions. He explained that peoples themselves should determine their destiny, and no force, whatever its cover, should be able to impose itself on any weak country. He stressed that the position of his country toward peoples struggling for their dignity, including the Saharan people, is firm and will never be changed.

The head of Chadian diplomacy, who was received by Brother Nourredine Harbi, deputy minister in charge of cooperation, will hold a series of talks with Algerian officials during his visit. Chad Foreign Minister Gouara Lassou was received by Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, member of the Political Bureau and minister of foreign affairs. They discussed the situation in Chad and the chances of finding a permanent settlement for the problem of Chad according to OAU resolutions.

The visit by the foreign minister of Chad to Algeria comes within the framework of efforts made by Algeria to achieve national reconciliation among the people of Chad.

PDRY President Arrives on Friendship, Working Visit

LD181909 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] The president of the PDRY, 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, arrived in Algiers this afternoon on a friendship and working visit. He was met at Houari Boumediene Airport by President Chadli Bendjedid. In a statement to the national press, the Yemeni president said he is happy to be in Algeria within the framework of bilateral cooperation and coordination between the two brotherly countries.

He pointed out that his visit will provide an opportunity to talk to and consult with Algerian leaders, headed by President Chadli Bendjedid, on the strengthening of bilateral relations, the examination of fresh developments in the Arab arena and the Red Sea region, as well as coordination between the two countries on crucial Arab issues, primarily the Palestinian question.

The Yemeni president expressed satisfaction over the continuous development of relations between the two countries. These relations, he said, will be further strengthened within the framework of the joint struggle with a view to serving the just causes of the peoples, mobilizing Arab potential and achieving the Arab unity needed to confront the challenges of the enemies and the imperialist-Zionist plots.

It is to be noted that President 'Ali Nasir is accompanied by a large delegation and that he will hold a series of talks with President Chadli Bendjedid and will also visit several economic projects.

Iranian Anthem Misplayed at Khamene'i Reception

GF171930 Kuwait AL-SIYASAH in Arabic 16 Sep 84 p 1

[News service report]

[Text] Iranian-Algerian relations witnessed a minor crisis during the visit paid by Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i to Algeria at the beginning of this month. The Army Band played the Iranian monarchal anthem instead of the anthem of the Islamic Republic of Iran to receive the Iranian president. The Iranian president became angry and decided to return to Tehran. The Algerian president intervened personally in the matter and convinced the Iranian president to stay. However, Algeria blamed the Iranian Embassy in Algiers for not providing it with the music of the new Iranian national anthem.

It is worth mentioning that the National Union of Algerian Students had issued a statement denouncing the Khamene'i visit to Algeria. The statement said that the Iranian regime supports Moroccan interests in the Middle East.

LIBYA

Paris Interviews Al-Turayki on Chadian Withdrawal

LD181429 Paris International Service in French 1245 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] Radio France International was able to get some explanations from Libyan Foreign Minister 'Ali 'Abd al-Salim al-Turayki. Interviewed by telephone by radio journalist Alain Chalveron, Mr al-Turayki underlined Libya's wish to develop its relations with France from now on, but he remained inflexible on the stand toward the political aspect of the Chadian conflict. Here is Mr al-Turayki:

[Begin recording] [Al-Turayki] We want to solve this problem, with the help of the OAU, with the help of Chad's neighbor countries. We want the Chadians to meet on the basis of the Lagos agreement and find a compromise. We still support the GUNT [Transitional National Union Government]. The GUNT is the OAU's legitimate government, the creation of the Lagos Agreement. There is a request (?or) invitation from our Brazzaville [as heard] friends to (?gather) all the Chadian factions.

We support [words indistinct] and we hope the Chadians will gather [words indistinct] conditions to talk their problems over.

[Chalveron] How is it that Libya, which demanded Hissein Habre's departure, is not laying down this condition now?

[Al-Turayki] Our stand with regard to Habre remains the same, and we believe that Habre, as the representative of the Northern Army must meet with the other Chadian factions in Brazzaville again to solve the Chadian issue and to form a government of national union. To raise a problem of protocol is precisely nothing else but solving this, at the national reconciliation. [sentence as heard]

[Chalveron] Some newspapers in France have expressed skepticism about your real intention to leave Chad.

[Al-Turayki] We must let the Chadian people solve their own problem among themselves. But if there is (?a further) intervention from outside Chad or a threat, then we must certainly assume our responsibilities.

[Chalveron] So, you do not exclude the possibility of returning to Chad one day?

[Al-Turayki] We hope not. We do not want to return to Chad, but if there is an aggression against the Chadian people, which threatens Chad, as a neighbor country linked to Chad we cannot twiddle our thumbs.

[Chalveron] Does the agreement which you signed on Sunday also include the Aozou strip?

[Al-Turayki] Aozou is an integral part of Libya. This is not a topic for discussion between us and our state. [as heard] [end recording]

Al-Turayki Meets With Goukouni

LD180958 Tripoli JANA in English 0821 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] Tripoli, Dhu al-Hijjah 23, September 18, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Dr 'Ali 'Abd al-Salam al-Turayki, the secretary of the People's Committee for the Foreign Liaison Bureau has met with President Goukouni Oueddei of the Chadian National Unity Government and informed him of Jamahiriyah and France's decision to begin the reciprocal and total withdrawal of French troops and Libyan elements backing the Chadian National Unity Government. President Goukouni expressed his government's support for the decision and pointed out that the withdrawal of French troops from Chad was an old wish whose implementation will help solve the Chadian problem.

JANA Denies Troop Presence

LD181924 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1730 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] Tripoli, 18 Sep (JANA) — The French minister of external relations, Claude Cheysson, yesterday told French television, Channel One, that France will withdraw from Chad because the Jamahiriyah is doing the same. Cheysson repeated what French officials have said in the past: We will stay in Chad as long as the Libyans are there, and will leave if they leave.

No doubt the hint made by the French minister of external relations was not unintentional but deliberate. Therefore, it is our duty to realize the aim behind it — an aim with a purpose, and ultimately we cannot but reveal it. Mr Cheysson, who is an expert on diplomacy and knows its tricks, was speaking about an alleged Libyan military presence in Chad, and this presence was what the withdrawal agreement from Chad had in mind. He wanted to stress this. But it should be clear that there are absolutely no Libyan Arab forces in Chad. What the agreement reached between the Jamahiriyah and France refers to are the elements of Libyan support for the Government of National Unity. If there is a military presence and if there are forces which should withdraw from Chad then it is the French military presence, which appears as a European occupation of Africa, which should be removed from Chad, willingly or unwillingly.

Mediterranean Socialist Group Reaffirms Support

LD182158 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1400 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] Tripoli, 18 Sep (JANA) — The Permanent Secretariat of the Organization of Progressive Socialists for the Mediterranean Region has reaffirmed its support for the people of the Jamahiriyah in resisting all the provocations against it by U.S. imperialism. In the final statement issued today following the conclusion of its meeting in Tripoli, the Permanent Secretariat praised the efforts of the Jamahiriyah in consolidating the Secretariat's activities and the Jamahiriyah's effective role in supporting the international liberation movements.

The Permanent Secretariat has decided to organize a seminar to discuss issues relating to migration and to convene a workers' conference during 1985. Following detailed discussions of the political situation in the Mediterranean, which constitutes a hotbed for conflict and tension, the Secretariat realizes the urgent necessity of coordinating the strongest relations among the member parties and the Secretariat. The Permanent Secretariat has adopted new methods of action for the sake of realizing the aims of the organization in confronting the political situation in the Mediterranean and internationally.

Members of the Permanent Secretariat expressed their support for the just struggle of the Palestinian people for their firm and legitimate rights, and their right to return, right to self-determination, and right to establish their independent Palestinian state on their land. It also expressed its denunciation of the Zionist aggressive practices against the Palestinian people and saluted the valiant struggle of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories.

The Permanent Secretariat expressed its solidarity with the people of Cyprus for their independence and territorial integrity. The Permanent Secretariat expressed its support for the struggle of the progressive Lebanese forces to preserve the independence, territorial integrity, and Arabism of Lebanon.

The Permanent Secretariat reaffirmed its support for the peaceful efforts to put an end to the Arab Gulf war. The

Permanent Secretariat expressed its support for the just struggle being waged by the Arab people in Syria against imperialist, Zionist, and reactionary plans. The Permanent Secretariat expressed its condemnation of all capitulationist plans and unilateral solutions, such as the Camp David accords, the so-called Reagan plan, and so on, which ignore the legitimate rights of the Arab people, in general, and the Palestinians, in particular.

The Permanent Secretariat appreciates the positive results of the meeting of the foreign ministers of the nonaligned Mediterranean states which was held in Malta as a positive step for the development of cooperation, stability, and peace in the region. The Permanent Secretariat expressed also its support for the efforts of the progressive parties in confronting the political and economic difficulties and problems in the Mediterranean region.

The Permanent Secretariat condemned the deployment of missiles and nuclear weapons, and the foreign military activities and exercises in the region. The Permanent Secretariat expressed its appreciation for the People's General Congress in the Jamahiriyah for the warm welcome and hospitality and care given to the participants. The Permanent Secretariat, while repeating its congratulations to the people of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah on the occasion of the 15th anniversary of the Great September Revolution, shares with the Libyan people their happiness and rejoicing on this occasion.

Egypt Tries To Keep 'Colonial Forces' in Red Sea

LD182043 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, minister of defense of the Egyptian regime, has made public the game that two mines have been discovered; one by the French team and detonated because it could not be retrieved from the water, the other by a British team that has been unable to retrieve it so far.

Abu Ghazalah's statement is clear proof of the determination of the Egyptian regime to play the game of keeping the colonial foreign forces in the Red Sea and the Gulf of Suez. This statement is a new excuse for the NATO forces to extend their stay in the Red Sea. Abu Ghazalah's statement has come to confirm the presence of mines despite the repeated denial by American officials that the mines are there. He thus offers an excuse for these forces to stay in the region and to continue its occupation.

Political Editor on African-Arab Union

LD180953 Tripoli JANA in English 0827 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] Tripoli, Dhu al-Hijjah 23, Sept 18, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — JANA political editor has commented on the media campaigns which were launched to cast suspicion and decry the Oujda treaty concluded between the Jamahiriyah and the Moroccan Kingdom towards the establishment of an Arab-African union treaty as well as on the attempts to cast erroneous explanations, even in words and deeds, in method and action. It is indeed a unionist nationalist revolution, symbolizing the conscience of the Arab nation.

All along its unionist struggle, the Great Al-Fatih Revolution has borne its historical responsibility, that of realizing Arab unity to confront the joint enemy of the Arab nation. In the midst of the silent and explosive battles continuously waged by the revolution for the sake of this nationalist objective, we rejected all sham slogans and surpassed all contradictions and blatant differences and worked on the path of unionist action, trying to render this action absorbant of all these contradictions because we fully believe that the Arab nation is one nation and must establish its unity to form an impressive force, deploying its resources to defend itself and bring about progress and erase backwardness.

In light of that nationalist dimension, we understood that with the passage of time, contradictions should not become an obstacle before the realization of unity, whether between two or more countries, because with the passage of time these contradictions would interact and hence disappear.

The unionist experiments which we realized on the path of unionist revolutionary struggle come to show that our motives were genuinely nationalist ones to step out of the defeated Arab reality. We were not at all part of the slogan bearers or those bargaining with [the] cause of Arabism. We were not led to them by what false claims are showing, in that our struggle to realize and ensure the success of a unity treaty was due to circumstantial factors.

What we have said concerning former experiments we also say about the Oujda treaty, which is basically a historical unionist action brought about by popular will in Jamahiriyah and Morocco, to become a foundation stone for the unity of the Arab Maghreb and a step on the way to realize the comprehensive unity of the Arab nation.

Naturally, the union between Jamahiriyah and Morocco was not based on temporal interests or circumstantial factors, not was it established to open a way for huggling [as received]. It was established on noble bases and genuine motives. As it stipulated in the treaty, it is essentially open before Arab and African countries.

We are sorry to see the appearance of misinterpretations, explanations and sensitivities affecting this unionist action and questioning it. We, in truth, are not of those who work towards partitions, provocations or threats because this blatantly contravenes our stands, our principles, our choices and orientations.

The Oujda treaty was a serious and genuine unionist action. We believed that there would be those who would not only bless this action but would join it and participate in it because it is a unionist action in the service of the Arab nation and African peoples. All its objectives are clear and frank, open before the masses and the entire world.

Therefore, we reject all justifications to thwart this action and even attempts to minimize it. The only explanation which we accept is that this action is not directed against anyone and is not based on the policy of axes. We say this fully believing in what we say. We have our independent entity and do not accept from anyone to advise us on what to do. The Oujda treaty was in light of this belief. Let all calculations and regionalist coalitions fall

down and disappear so that there will be a total conviction that we are revolutionary nationalist unionists.

Ambassadors Present Credentials to Al-Turayki

LD182241 Tripoli JANA in English 1759 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] Tripoli, Dhu al-Hijjah 23, September 18, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Secretary of the General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison Bureau 'Ali 'Abd al-Salam al-Turayki this morning received the credentials of the new ambassadors of the Yemen Arab Republic, 'Abd al-Wahab (Jahhaf); the Republic of Hungary, John Ede; the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Mohammed Zigum Anka; and Algeria, Mohamed Ali (Ammar) to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

When presenting his credentials, 'Abd al-Wahab (Jahhaf) gave a speech at the beginning of which he conveyed the greetings of the president of the Yemen Arab Republic, Colonel 'Ali Abdallah Salih, to the leader of the revolution and his appreciation for efforts taken by the leader for uniting the Arab action against the common enemy of the Arab nation. He said: We in Yemen do highly appreciate these efforts that show that the Jamahiriyah gives great attention to the issues of joint Arab action and the Arab unity as the decisive answer to the challenge of colonialism and Zionism and the best road to confront enemies of the Arab nation.

The ambassador of the Yemen Arab Republic confirmed the desire of his country to promote mutual cooperation relations with the Jamahiriyah in all fields.

Presenting his credentials the ambassador of the Republic of Hungary, John Ede, gave a speech at the beginning of which he expressed his pleasure to work in the Jamahiriyah. He then said: I hereby convey the greetings of the party, the government, and the Hungarian people to the Libyan Arab people and the leader of their revolution, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, stressing the role played by the Jamahiriyah in resisting imperialist challenges and in assisting the oppressed wherever they are.

The Hungarian ambassador praised the bilateral relations between the Jamahiriyah and Hungary and expressed the desire of his country to promote them. He confirmed the support of the Hungarian people to the Libyan Arab people in resisting all imperialist and Zionist plots against the Libyan Arab people.

The new Nigerian ambassador, Mohammed Zigum Anka, presented his credentials by giving a speech at the beginning of which he conveyed the greetings and gratitude of the Nigerian people and chairman of the military government in Nigeria, Muhammadu Buhari, to the revolution leader and to the Libyan Arab people. He then said the Nigerians greatly appreciate the realization of achievements by the Great Al-Fatih Revolution as [a] great and substantial victory.

The ambassador then pointed out that the Jamahiriyah and Nigeria work together for the African Continent and for happiness and freedom of the African person. He went on to say: I would like to add that our two countries have identical viewpoints on all issues concerning our beloved continent and the world in general. We both agree that Africa should be left for the Africans, that an end should be put to all forms of colonialism.

He went on to say the agreement came to reaffirm the feeling he felt when he met the leader of the revolution, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, in Banghazi on the 30th of last July.

Opposition Reviews Libyan-British Relations

LD171523 (Clandestine) Voice of the Libyan People in Arabic 2058 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] Relations between Al-Qadhdhafi and Britain used to be very harmonious. Al-Qadhdhafi's aides contracted British companies to carry out various projects inside Libya and provided them with huge profits shared by the agents of the charlatan and the British companies. The establishments and companies operating in Libya and the various government establishments sent large numbers of Libyan students to study in Britain — in excess of 2,000 in various fields. Benefits to the British Government from this totalled millions of pounds. The Al-Qadhdhafi government also sent large numbers of Libyans for medical treatment abroad. Britain got the lion's share of this. All this was in addition to the British oil companies and the British engineers operating in Libya, the technicians, and the experts. This made the government of the charlatan a source of benefits for the British Government. The Al-Qadhdhafi government helped to reduce the number of unemployed in Britain. It also helped the British Government to add millions of pounds to the British treasury — the pounds which Britain got as a result of the special relations it had with the senior rabble in the charlatan's government who were given a free hand by Al-Qadhdhafi do what they wanted with the destiny and wealth of our people. They squandered this wealth left and right without any control.

Once again we say that relations between the charlatan and the British Government were at a somewhat good level of understanding. The Libyan funds which Al-Qadhdhafi and his aides milk from the coffers of our Libyan people were poured into British banks. British companies had strong roots in the Libyan economy. British engineers, technicians, and experts were traveling throughout Libya, planning and implementing Al-Qadhdhafi's mythical and failing projects. Britain was satisifed with the charlatan and the charlatan was happy with that. This was the case until the Libyan people woke up and began to form their secret and open organizations and the sons of the Libyan people began to move at all levels inside and oustide Libya in an endeavor to topple the regime of charlatanism and deceit, the regime of anarchy and corruption, the regime of domination and dictatorship, the regime of the Jamahiriyah of Al-Qadhdhafi.

Unfortunately for Al-Qadhdhafi, Britain was full of Libyans whom Al-Qadhdhafi wanted to keep out of the Libyan political arena by granting them scholarships or diplomatic posts or by just forcing them to leave by intimidation. Before the end of the seventies Al-Qadhdhafi began to feel that he was losing his close friend Britain, because the sons of Libya began to publish papers and magazines and to distribute leaflets and statements condemning his regime, injustice, and corruption.

Then Al-Qadhdhafi thought of threatening and intimidating the Libyans. He claimed that his arm is long and able to reach Britain and beyond. He summoned all his mercenaries and lackeys for a meeting in Libya and they issued orders to kill everyone hostile to the charlatan Al-Qadhdhafi. They searched everywhere but were unable to reach the leaders of the Libyan opposition anywhere. The first victim of Al-Qadhdhafi's treachery was in London — an innocent person who was looking for his livelihood, a gentle person much loved by thousands of Arabs and known to the sons of Libya very well. He was journalist Muhammad Mustafa Ramadan.

The charalatan then sent his hired men. They assassinated the martyr Muhammad Mustafa Ramadan on Friday, 11 April 1980, while he was leaving the mosque after Friday prayers. The British authorities arrested the two criminals who participated in the assassination. They were sentenced by a British court to life imprisonment.

Despite this incident, which was unprecedented in the history of international relations, Great Britain did not make a move. The British Government is not interested in the Libyans, even if they are all killed by Al-Qadhdhafi, as long as Al-Qadhdhafi and his aides continue to trade with Britain and as long as Britain enjoys every facility in implementing its projects in the charlatan's Jamahiriyah.

Despite Britain's silence over the assassination of the martyr journalist Muhammad Mustafa Ramadan, the sons of the Libyan people did not cease their attacks on the charlatan Al-Qadhdhafi whenever there was an opportunity to do so. Only days later, the henchemen of the charlatan Al-Qadhdhafi assassinated the marty Mahmud Nafi' in his London office; this was on 25 April 1980. A few months later the charlatan Al-Qadhdhafi ordered his lackeys to use a new method to pressure Britain to obtain the release of his agents who carried out the assassinations and who were arrested by the British authorities. Al-Qadhdhafi ordered his henchmen to poison British citizens and to threaten the British government until it released the criminals. However, Al-Qadhdhafi's plan failed utterly and the agents of the charlatan Al-Qadhdhafi poisoned two Libyan children, aged 7 and 8 years. Unfortunately for the criminal Al-Qadhdhafi, the British Government arrested the criminal who poisoned the children. He was named Husni Farhat. He was sentenced to life imprisonment. Thus the number of agents of the charlatan Al-Qadhdhafi began to increase inside British jails.

Despite all this, British relations with Al-Qadhdhafi were not affected. In fact, trade agreements and other economic deals between the charlatan's Jamahiriyah and Britain reached billions of dollars. Therefore Britain was very anxious not to annoy the criminal charlatan Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. As a result of these strong economic ties between the charlatan and Britain, the charlatan thought he was able to dominate the Libyan opposition in Britain, taking into account that Britain would not say a word because of its desire to preserve its interests; and this is actually what happened.

Britain did not take any decision or measure against Al-Qadhdhafi over the three aforementioned crimes despite the fact that the doubtless involvement of the Al-Qadhdhafi government was proved. The British Government merely imprisoned the criminals, which encouraged the charlatan to carry out a fourth crime in Britain. That crime was the assassination the martyr Ahmad Mustafa Buribay'ah in Manchester on 22 November 1980. Despite all these ugly crimes by the charlatan Al-Qadhdhafi against Libyans residing in Britain, relations between the two governments remained at a high level of dealing and exchange. The number of officials at the bureau of the charlatan Al-Qadhdhafi in London reached about 180 envoys, which surprised the British authorities when they began to reconsider their position with regard to the authorities of the charlatan. But despite all this Al-Qadhdhafi tried to stage several silly theatricals the purpose of which — as he claimed — was to pressure the British Government to release his criminals. For this reason Al-Qadhdhafi ordered his authorites to arrest a number of British nationals in Libya and accuse them of espionage. The charlatan tried to strike a bargain for an exchange with the British Government. But Britain found itself in a precarious position before world public opinion and before its own citizens, and therefore did not accept the Qadhdhafite blackmail and did not release the criminals, who are still in British jails.

As is known, the agents of the charlatan Al-Qadhdhafi spread out in various European cities hunting the innocents among the sons of our people who have no connection with the opposition and who were not prepared to meet with Al-Qadhdhafi. As a result, innocent martyrs fell in Europe, such as martyr 'Izz al-Din Mujahid, martyr Mahdawi and martyr Ruqaymi and others.

Once more we go back to our subject, relations between Britain and Al-Qadhdhafi, and say that Britain continued to cling to Al-Qadhdhafi and Al-Qadhdhafi continued to fatten up his relations with Britain with billions of dollars and with Libyan oil and with many concessions. The charlatan was aiming first at the liquidation of those opposing his regime from among the sons of the Libyan people who are resident in Britain; second, to show his might to the world and his ability to control the big powers by way of offering them an inducement — Libyan funds, and intimidate those who object with threats to imprison and maltreat their nationals in Libya.

Al-Qadhdhafi thought he had become the master of the arena, doing whatever he pleased. This encouraged him at the beginning of this year — 1984 — to send a group of terrorists, such as Al-Baghdadi and 'Abd al-Salam Znadnah, and other scum to seize the Libyan Embassy in London following the demonstrations staged by the opposition factions in September 1983 outside the bureau of the charlatan Al-Qadhdhafi and in the wake of the increase of the opposition's activities in Britain in a very noticeable manner which took the form of graffiti on the walls of buildings belonging to the charlatan's government, including the embassy and consulate buildings; also following the execution of a person called 'Ammar Dhaw al-Qadhdhafi in Rome at the hands of the Al-Burkan organization.

Following all these incidents, which proved the strength and growth of the opposition as well as its presence at international level, the charlatan once again decided to enter into a battle of threats, and selected the British arena once more according to what we said above — the links between Britain and Al-

Qadhdhafi and according to Britain's economic interests with the government of the charlatan.

The charlatan Al-Qadhdhafi sent the criminal 'Abd al-Salam Znadnah to London especially to participate in terrorist operations planned in Libya. Reports say that 'Abd al-Salam Znadnah, al-Qadhdhafi's personal envoy to this operation, brought explosives with him from Libya and personally participated in and supervized the explosions in London and Manchester last March, which resulted in the injury of many innocent people from among Arab communities in London, as well as British citizens. However, no Libyan was injured as a result of these explosions. The British police were able to arrest a number of Al-Qadhdhafi's terrorists and uncover his plans as a result of confessions by those arrested. Immediately afterward, the British authorities expelled the criminal 'Abd al-Salam Znadnah, Miftah Sharif, 'Ali Husayn al-Sughayyir, Qays al-Rashrash and Miftah 'Ali. The strange thing was that Al-Qadhdhafi was angry with them and ordered their imprisonment immediately on their arrival in his Jamahiriyah. The British authorities sent 'Ali al-Jahur, Khalid Mansur, al-Tahir (Buzayz), and Muhammad [name indistinct] for trial. 'Ali al-Jahur and at-Tahir (Buzayz) made a full confession about the plan of the charlatan in Britain. Reports from London say Al-Jahur broke down before the court and began to weep like a child.

Only a month after the explosions, the free sons of Libya staged a demonstration denouncing the killings and torture and crimes carried out by Al-Qadhdhafi against the steadfast Libyan people. On 17 April this year, a number of sons of Libya who oppose the regime of the charlatan Al-Qadhdhafi took to the streets of London in a peaceful demonstration carrying placards condemning the criminal and shouting: Long live Libya, Down with Al-Qadhdhafi. When they arrived at the charlatan's embassy, the so-called People's Bureau, Al-Qadhdhafi's henchmen opened fire on them, wounding 11 young sons of Libya and killing the British policewoman Yvonne Fletcher. British television screened the incidents surrounding the anarchic crime of the charlatan. Viewers saw the British policewoman falling to the ground when hit in the stomach by the bullets of Al-Qadhdhafi's treachery, while the criminal who murdered her remained inside the bureau out of reach of the arm of justice.

British anger against their government was roused. British papers began to attack the government. Representatives of the British people began to attack the government in the House of Commons. The British Government was compelled to sever links with the criminal Al-Qadhdhaif. It had no choice but to demand that the criminal who opened fire on the demonstrators be handed over. Al-Qadhdhafi rejected Britain's demand. Thus Britain was compelled to expel all the members of the bureau of the charlatan and to sever diplomatic relations with his government. The entire world then saw on television, on Sunday 29 April, the exodus of the criminals from their embassy in London with heads shamefully bowed.

Despite the expulsion of the criminals from London and the breaking off of diplomatic relations with the authorities of Al-Qadhdhafi, Britain is still linked to the government of the charlatan by other relations. Trade exchanges between Libya and Britain benefits Mrs Thatcher's government by more than $500 million a year. This is in addition to what more than 9,000 Britons get by working in Libya. Add to this also what British companies operating in Libya get. Despite all this, Al-Qadhdhafi still accuses the Libyan opposition of being a lackey of Britain. He still claims that Britain helps the opposition.

The clear fact remains that Al-Qadhdhafi depends on Britain and Britain depends on Al-Qadhdhafi, and both serve each other's interests despite every word said to the contrary in the press and the radio. Nevertheless, Al-Qadhdhafi still carries out what he can in the form of terrorist operations in Britain. On 17 August, Al-Qadhdhafi's agents assassinated their comrade-in-terrorism, 'Ali al-Jahur. The British authorities found his decomposed body in an apartment in London. All security sources in Britain reaffirmed that the agents of Al-Qadhdhafi killed their friend 'Ali al-Jahur.

Dear listeners, we come to the end of this talk on British-Al-Qadhdhafi relations. We hope that you will be with us again when we will shed more light on the assassination of 'Ali al-Jahur and all the incidents which accompanied it. We will also tell you about the various British reactions — by the British Government on the one hand, and the British media on the other hand. Until then, we leave you in God's safe-keeping. Peace be upon you.

MOROCCO

AL-BAYANE Examines Algerian Reaction to Union

LD151328 Rabat MAP in English 1217 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Text] Rabat, Sept 15 (MAP) — Morocco has recently decided to cancel entry visas for the Algerian nationals to put an end to rumours according to which the Moroccan-Libyan Treaty of Union was directed against a third party and was aimed at dividing the Maghreb. *AL-BAYANE* daily, organ of the Moroccan Party for Progress and Socialism (PPS-Communist) reported Friday that concordant testimonies and reliable information show that the Algerian authorities had reacted negatively to the Moroccan decision.

First, the daily outlined, it seems that Algiers has no intention to apply the principle of reciprocity [to] the Moroccans desirous to visit Algeria [who] will have to undergo the same bothering procedure as in the past. However, Algeria seems to be more vindictive vis-a-vis her own nationals. It seems that the dispositions that were adopted when President Bendjedid took power to liberalize travel regime applied to Algerians will not be applied to those who visit Morocco. [sentence as received]

The daily added that sources from the East reported that Algerian frontier posts have been massively reinforced with frontier guards, soldiers, elements from the mounted police... In fact, Algerian authorities prevent the Algerians from taking advantage of the Moroccan initiative.

Besides, the daily went on, Algerian authorities would have addressed to "the associations of Algerians in Europe", which are in fact the legal representatives of the Algerian ruling party (the National Liberation Front) abroad, a circular forbidding expressly to its citizens to go through Morocco when returning

to Algeria. Therefore, the Algerian immigrant workers who would like to return home through Spain and northern Morocco, as it was the case before 1975, would not be allowed to do so.

In fact, in its note, Algiers stipulates that Algerians coming back home through Morocco would be driven back, the daily wrote adding that it is Algiers which continues leading fallacious campaigns against the Moroccan-Libyan union. It is Algiers which is in contradiction with the feelings of unity and brotherhood binding the Algerian and Moroccan peoples.

AL-BAYANE then outlined that it is up to the international public opinion to weigh up the situation — Morocco, while defending her national legitimate rights, gives the proof of good willingness and proposes dialogue and a unitary prospection towards a brotherly Maghreb on the one hand, and Algerian leaders who persist in their anti-Moroccan diatribes, stick to their hegemonist and balkanizing aims, ignore the unitary ideal... and penalize their own nationals, on the other hand. It is clear, concluded the daily, that the factor of tension and instability in the Maghreb lies in Algiers and nowhere else.

SUDAN

Saudi 'UKAZ Interviews Vice President al-Tayyib

GF181900 Jidda 'UKAZ in Arabic 17 Sep 84 P 10

[Interview with First Vice President 'Umar Muhammad al-Tayyib by *'UKAZ* correspondent 'Uthman Sayyid Ahmad — date, place not given]

[Excerpts] Referring to current Sudanese-Ethiopian relations, the Sudanese first vice president said: Sudan and Ethiopia are neighbors. There are old powerful, and solid relations between the two nations. We are striving to maintain good relations with the Ethiopians. Relations between two countries can decline, but can again improve. For my part, I hope for such an understanding to occur between us based on our declared foreign policy.

The recent antagonism between ourselves and Ethiopia is because of its stance toward events in the south. For example, the recent bandit attacks and the siege of the cities of Pachala and Malwal on the Ethiopian borders are proof that the bandits operate from inside Ethiopia. We captured a great number of them. Our reconnaissance units found more evidence. We explained to the Ethiopians that the continuation of such events would undermine bilateral relations and that they must end these events.

We explained to them that their accusations regarding our help to the Eritreans are false. We cannot allow ourselves to play such a role. We do not like what others hate. We have proven to them that we do not help the Eritreans. However, it is regretful that the Soviets and some others provide them with false information. Because of this, we began to mistrust each other. But we are trying our best to improve bilateral relations and to regain confidence through dialogue.

Major General 'Umar al-Tayyib said that there is an extensive media campaign currently directed against Sudan. It exaggerates the events in the south and deals with the security situation in a biased manner. This comes within the framework of the unfair media campaign against Sudan especially after its implementation of Islamic laws. He said: I affirm that the situation in southern Sudan is totally stable, specially after the recent military operations successfully conducted by the Sudanese forces in the Upper Nile region. We found that the bandits were trained in the region of Gambela in Ethiopia. They received very advanced weapons including SAM missiles. They began attacking our border regions in great numbers, using Ethiopia as their center of operations. They attacked in waves following Soviet tactics to occupy one of the border points, to hoist their flag, and to declare a government-in-exile. They implemented their plan knowing beforehand that the regular government troops at border posts are few in number and equipment. They concentrated on attacking us with artillery fire but our forces remained steadfast and repelled the attack until the arrival of reinforcements from the middle and the north.

In conclusion, the Sudanese first vice president said that Sudanese oil actually exists in great amounts. The exploration operations were temporarily suspended due to the military operations conducted by our forces against the bandits. The security situation is now stable, especially in Al-Wahdah and Bentiu areas where exploration operations are being conducted by the Chevron Company. The managers of this company recently made a thorough visit to the area of exploration. They have seen that the security situation is well under control. They are trying now to complete what they have started. They will begin the operations next October.

To secure these regions, we set up a special military force to protect the oil wells. It is called a battle group. This force will use the most modern means of security and reconnaissance to protect oil establishments. The force is highly trained to achieve this goal. There is a police force being set up to protect Chevron work camps in Bentiu area. We will give our close attention to this issue so that the exploration operations can continue.

I affirm that while the exploration operations were stopped, the oil pipeline construction continued. Construction is still continuing according to plan. The goal is to extend the pipeline from the south up to Numayri harbor in eastern Sudan. Also during this period, extra wells were drilled in Babanusah, and Al-Muglad in western Sudan. This shows that the oil exploration process in Sudan has not stopped completely. We ask God for the right direction.

Opposition Front Leader Dies in Addis Ababa

JN181515 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1445 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] Khartoum, 18 Sep (SUNA) — Reports reaching SUNA from Addis Ababa today said that Benjamin Paul, political officer of the so-called Popular Front for the Liberation of Sudan, has died in the Ethiopian capital under mysterious circumstances. The reports added that the alleged front recently summoned Benjamin Paul to Addis Ababa from his residence in London as a result of some differences between him and John Garang, leader of the alleged front, and arrested him for questioning about accusations that he squandered front funds.

Briefs

Outgoing Indian Ambassador — Khartoum, 15 Sep (SUNA) — Foreign Minister Hashim 'Uthman received the Indian ambassador in Khartoum this morning on the occasion of the end of his term as India's extraordinary and plenipotentiary ambassador to Sudan. [Excerpt] *[Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1430 GMT 15 Sep 84 JN]*

TUNISIA

Government 'Satisfied' With Chad Agreement

LD181242 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] The Tunisian Government expressed its satisfaction at the Libyan-French agreement on the withdrawal of the two countries' forces from Chad. Foreign Minister Beji Caid Essebsi, in reply to a TAP question on Tunisia's stance vis-a-vis the Libyan-French agreement, stated that the Tunisian Government has received with full satisfaction the news of the agreement, and that the Tunisian Government, which has long called for resolution of the problems experienced by the fraternal African country of Chad through dialogue among its sons away from any external interference, believes that (this agreement?) could help create suitable conditions for national reconciliation and bring about dialogue instead of fighting, and could help work for resolving existing problems in a way that will serve the supreme interests of the Chadian people.

While welcoming this step, the Tunisian Government expresses hope that all Chadians would respond to the requirements of this interest, and unite their efforts to turn a new page of effective solidarity, and turn all their energy to rebuild their country in (an atmosphere?) of fraternity, safety, and peace. The Tunisian Government is confident that they will find full support from their brothers in the African Continent to strengthen stability in Chad, as well as Chad's unity, independence and sovereignty, in accordance with the principles of the OAU Charter.

WESTERN SAHARA

SDAR Communique Reports 'Liberation Army' Activities

LD182101 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] The Saharan Democratic Arab Republic Ministry of Information and Culture has issued a military communique which includes the results of recent activities by the fighters of the Saharan People's Liberation Army. The communique points out that the Saharan fighters are continuing their attacks against the invading Moroccan forces, imposing severe human and material losses.

The communique, reviewing the various operations by the Saharan People's Liberation Army in the period 7-16 September, adds the aggressors in (Oum Rouicin), in the region of El Aargub, were bombed for 45 minutes. On 11 September, the Royal 1st Forces stationed in Smul Niran, Mahbes Jneinat and Ouedei el Ouerg were the target of concentrated bombing for 1 hour and 20 minutes. On the same day, the invading Moroccan forces in Ouedei el Ouerg were exposed to 1 hour's bombing. On the 18th [as heard] an enemy truck was destroyed near [name indistinct] after hitting a mine. On the 14th, a unit of the Saharan People's Liberation Army bombed enemy soldiers stationed at (Oum Remis) in the region of El Aargub. On the same day, Moroccan forces in [rest of sentence indistinct].

The Saharan statement adds that on the 16th, the Sahraoui fighters were able to [word indistinct] 30 enemy tanks, [rest of item indistinct].

ETHIOPIA

Further Reportage on WPE Constituent Congress

Documentation Commission Report

EA180929 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1416 GMT 10 Sep 84

[Report to Workers Party of Ethiopia, WPE, Constituent Congress in Addis Ababa on 10 Sept by Comrade Embibel, chairman of the WPE Documentation and Assessment Commission — live]

[Text] Dear Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, secretary general of the WPE Central Committee, chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council and commander in chief of the revolutionary Armed Forces; dear WPE Central Committee members; our dear guests; dear participants of the congress: It will be recalled that one of the working commissions set up to promote the efficiency of the WPE formation congress which began on 6 September 1984 was the Documentation and Assessment Commission. I humbly request permission to present the assessment report prepared by the commission at its meeting on 10 September 1984 in its effort to discharge the responsibility placed on it by the congress. [applause]

The commission has been able to ascertain that the necessary preparations were made for the WPE formation congress based on: The COPWE resolution that the next congress should be the WPE formation congress, COPWE having taken the historic responsibility for preparing the necessary preconditions for a Marxist-Leninist leadership for the revolution and hence the organization of the party; and on the central report presented by our revolutionary leader Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam to the seventh regular session of the COPWE Central Committee.

The commission reviewed the draft program in preparing for the preparty period and the celebrations of the 10th anniversary of the revolution, and ensured that a proportional organizational structure was laid down for its implementation. It notes that the program has contributed its share to the attractive and satisfactory result of this historic congress.

Since the preparation of the party's documents holds a priority position among the major tasks stated in the program, the commission has studied the emphasis placed on preparations for the party's basic documents in their various forms. In this respect, while the major foundation stones for the preparation of WPE documents are the experiences gained in COPWE and the coherence of the country's objective reality in relation to the principles of Marxism-Leninism, and since the synthesis of the rich experience of vanguard parties is indispensable, the commission has noted that based on the agreements between COPWE and parties of friendly socialist countries, the visits by 12 delegations consisting of 301 members for periods of 15-30 days to acquire experience in party functions, and the production of 12 texts consisting of 3,421 pages presented by the delegations, have been properly utilized to aid the preparation of WPE documents.

The commission has verified that after the preparation of the drafts of the documents, opinions and constructive proposals have been made on them at every level. After the initial drafts were presented to the COPWE Executive Committee there have been periodic constructive suggestions that have enriched them and led to the presentation of the seventh draft to this historical congress.

The commission has also noted that apart from the documents approved by the meeting of the WPE formation congress and WPE Central Committee, numerous forms that will aid day to day implementation of tasks have been prepared and completed. Comprehensively, the number of documents and forms essential for the WPE's basic tasks and day-to-day processes that have prepared within the context of the program, is as follows:

47 in the sector of organizational work,
32 in the sector of general issues, and
14 for the financial and administration sector.

The commission has affirmed the preparation of a total of 93 different documents and forms. The commission has been able to realise, therefore, that after this historic congress, party bodies on all levels, as regards documents and forms, will be able to carry out their functions without any problem whatsoever. Other tasks have been carried out in the interests of the various commissions set up by the congress to serve itself and the historic nature of the congress and to aid in Agitprop.

These tasks are: The program of the congress, the agenda of the congress, various reports, messages of support, cataloging and registering forms, WPE formation congress badges, numerous posters, two English language magazines, brochures on various issues, and 26 different magazines prepared by government and public offices and organizations. The commission has noted that these have been implemented and registered.

The commission has also noted that in addition to this our victory exhibition, which is the most prominent in form and content in the history of exhibitions in our country, the preparation of various stamps and the completion of one part of the translation of "Das Kapital" reflect the full magnanimity of our congress. The commission has realized in particular the efforts by the committee to prepare a revolutionary history, set up a documentation program for future generations to amass and coordinate events of the 10-year struggle and victory, and lay the basis for a document of the revolution's history. All these have generated high hopes.

In realising the important contribution of the firm organization of the preparations for the congress to the success of the congress, the commission has expressed its admiration for the attention paid to preparations. The commission has verified that as regards the opinions, reports and declarations of support registered during the congress, there have been six on the central report presented by our revolutionary leader Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, two on COPWE regulations, two on the 10-year perspective plan, and a total of 13 declarations of support have been registered.

The commission has affirmed that the documents presented and approved by the congress are, the central report presented by Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, the WPE draft regulation,

the WPE program and the 10-year perspective plan, and that they have been duly registered.

Regarding the reports presented to the WPE formation congress, the reports of the Program and Draft Resolution Commission, the preparation of the Commission of Organizational Work and Regulations, the Commission for the 10-Year Perspective Plan, the Electoral Commission and the Assessment and Documentation Commission have also been registered.

Regarding the messages of support from friendly parties and governments, public and professional associations, the commission has affirmed that six leaders of friendly parties and governments, 29 friendly parties and governments, and representatives of liberation movements, have presented their messages and their declarations have been registered.

From within the country declarations of support have been presented by the All-Ethiopian Trade Union, the All-Ethiopian Peasants Association, Revolutionary Ethiopia's Youth Association, Revolutionary Ethiopia's Womens Association, urban dwellers associations, and professional associations, expressing their admiration for this historical congress and their firm stand for the implementation of the WPE program. Their declarations have been registered.

Various meetings have been held to facilitate the successful completion of the congress. The commission has noted that these are: a WPE Central Committee meeting, a meeting of the political Bureau of the Central Committee of WPE, and five commission meetings. These met according to the program, have fulfilled their responsibilities, and have been registered.

In conclusion the commission, while affirming that the declarations and resolutions of this historical congress have been prepared through the Commission for Programs and Drafting, resolutions of this historical congress have been prepared through the Commission for Programs and Drafting Resolutions states that the entire Ethiopian people have been following this historical congress and great events on television and radio. When I state that the prestigious and victorious congress is near to completing its task, it is with great humility and revolutionary fervor. Thank you. [applause]

Military Representative's Speech

EA172329 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1431 GMT 10 Sep 84

[Speech by Comrade Yared Gizaw, representative of the Armed Forces, at the concluding session of the WPE Constituent Congress in Addis Ababa — live]

[Text] Dear comrade secretary general of the WPE Central Committee; our dear guests; dear guests; dear congress participants; comrades: We, the members of the revolutionary Armed Forces of revolutionary Ethiopia, who are on the alert to protect the land, air, and sea borders of our dear revolutionary motherland, which has been respected and defended by the sacrifices of her heroic children, feel deeply delighted to be given the chance to express our heartfelt wishes and regards as partici[illegible] historic congress. [applause]

Our dear revolutionary leader and comrades, inasmuch as the toppling of the exploitative and oppressive regime and the creation of a new system through a popular revolution is a historic obligation, being prepared to make sacrifices for what the r[illegible]olution demands in terms of freedom is ineluctable. It is by understanding this historical fact and by discharging the responsibility bestowed on us by the broad masses that we have made all the sacrifices demanded of us in the struggle to protect our revolutionary motherland and reactionary aggression and to destroy the reactionaries' intrigues. [applause]

Our dear revolutionary leader, comrades, our revolution's basic objective is to build a system in which justice, equality, and social prosperity flourish. The broad masses are working day and night to bring about this system. The objectives of the Armed Forces are not different from this. From the moment we repulsed our arrogant enemies we held our guns in one hand and production tools in the other to develop our revolutionary motherland as a reflection of our noble objectives, which stands for peace and progress. [applause] We are the children of the workers. To produce, to build, to stand at attention and work are (?parts) of our mission. By facing the enemies at the battlefront and destroying them, the peasant who exchanged his plough for the gun, the worker who downed his tools because he was angered by the violation of our revolutionary motherland proved his historic nature.

In the little time he had left over from defending the re[illegible]olution he also won a victory over the illiteracy that was the result of the feudal system. Without being satisfied with that, holding up the torch of knoweldge he participate in freeing his compatriots from this dangerous enemy.

Today members of our revolutionary Armed Forces attempt to prevent education from being isolated from fighting, managing to construct a new culture, beginning from driving a vehicle to using complicated technology. We believe that the results achieved are a source of pride for our true citizens. [applause]

Dear comrades, even though we are the winners of many victories in various fields in the past years of struggle, the responsibility for being alert to maintain the well-being of our country and our revolution cannot be neglected. Because our enemies are ready to destroy what we are building, our efforts to destroy their tricks and transfer the victories we have stored to a higher stage of development will continue. [applause]

Even though we have paid great sacrifices for the peace, security, and prosperity of the Ethiopian people, we shall not be the ones to retreat if an enemy opposed to our objectives comes. We are there to defend ourselves with all our force. [applause] It must be known to our enemies that gallantry and heroism is the noble and heroic heritage of our fathers and is renewed by our blood. [lengthy applause]

The objectives that we stood for are not only to take care of the freedom that we received from our fathers — and they made sacrifices to preserve the dignity and freedom of the revolution

— but to victoriously go forward along the path of new development and prosperity and transfer this freedom to the next generation with prestigious victory. [applause]

Standing side by side with those who are struggling for their freedom internationally and to assure world peace, which is the guarantee for mutual development and is in accordance with our international duty, is the other part of our prestigious obligation. [applause]

No force will stop us from breaking the good news so that all our friends will feel proud of the participation of the working people, particularly the man who physically never abandoned us, even during our most dangerous times in the trenches. Our revolutionary leader's reliable leadership was the source of our strength and gallantry in fulfilling these major obligations. [applause]

At one time our comrade revolutionary leader said, and I quote, members of our revolutionary Armed Forces can fall while fighting for their aims, and they are falling. But their standard will neve fall — when one falls, another will pick up the standard and follow his example, because (our force) is drawn not from a stream but from the ocean, unquote. [applause]

Putting it correctly, our arm has more than ever before developed through the implementation of national military service, the territorial people's militia programs, and the participation of the working people. [applause] We believe that the implemeatation of these programs, apart from bringing about a substitute force that will maintain the victories scored through our struggle, will be the means for producing many millions of socialist heroes — both those who have stood up for social development and those who are ready to inherit the heroic history and revolutionary heritage and who reject aggression and degradation. [applause]

Our efforts for their fruition will not cease. Comrade chairman, comrade participants of the congress, we have been able to achieve the gallant victories we have scored today through the directives we received from the revolutionary government and COPWE. Now the leadership of the Marxist-Leninist Party is decisive in scoring more victories to reach our goals. Hence, today we are able to accept the WPE leadership, which turns the pages of an additional new chapter for our country. [applause]

Because the WPE leadership in general has no alternatives to our stride for socialism, it has become the major guarantee for the success of the activities of our Armed Forces' day to day movements. [applause] As we have understood from the experience of socialist countries, a Marxist-Leninist party that is the vanguard of society is the leader of the Armed Forces — its teacher and listener. It is also the one that will bring about the guarantee of victory in time of war and in time of peace. It will assess the preparedness for war and political competence and check on its necessary development. As history teaches, it is only through the leadership of a Marxist-Leninist party that forces trying to realize socialism score victories over imperialism and reactionary forces and record acts of great and prestigious heroism. That is why we at this great and historic forum hold the formation of the WPE in high regard.

Therefore, by confirming our unwavering loyalty to our party, we, the Armed Forces of revolutionary Ethiopia, beg humbly to repeat our promise in front of our revolutionary leader and the participants of this great congress. [applause]

We, the Armed Forces of revolutionary Ethiopia, understanding our noble obligation to defend the country and the revolution, and the need to successfully fulfill our responsibilities and develop our preparedness for war through continuous military training and Marxist-Leninist science; we give our revolutionary promise. [Armed Forces members present in congress repeat last phrase three times]

We reaffirm our promise to adhere to the directives given to us by this WPE, the revolutionary government, and our dear commander in chief of the Armed Forces for the well-being of our revolutionary motherland and the working people at any time and place, and serve faithfully and decisively. We reaffirm our promise. [Armed Forces members repeat three times]

We give our revolutionary promise that we will advance our revolution by defending the dignity and security of our revolutionary motherland and translating into action the central report and its directives, the WPE programme, and the 10-year development plan by coordinating our forces and abilities. We give our revolutionary promise. [Armed Forces members repeat three times] [applause]

Miu Dobrescu Addresses Congress

EA181336 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1426 GMT 8 Sep 84

[Speech by Miu Dobrescu, member of the Romanian Communist Party Political Executive Committee, at the WPE Constituent Congress on 8 September in Addis Ababa — live; in Romanian fading to Amharic translation]

[Text] Dear Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, dear comrades. We present our heartfelt greetings and message of friendship in the name of the Romanian Communist Party [RCP] and of secretary general Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, to the participants of the WPE formation congress and to all members of the party. [applause]

Our presence here at the formation congress is a good indication of the strength of the relations of friendship and cooperation between our two countries. A strong base for the strengthening of our relations was laid by the talks between Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam and Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, and also by the agreements we have signed in the fields of politics, economics, technology, science, and culture.

The people of Romania have great admiration for the revolution of the Ethiopian people which toppled the supremacy of feudalism and imperialism and opened the way for the country's free growth in the economic and social sectors and which enabled its transition to socialist construction.

We have felt genuine happiness in the victories you have achieved in the struggle to build a new, independent, and prosperous

Ethiopia. We are confident that under the WPE's leadership, both through the efforts made by the country's broad masses for your free development and for the building of a modern socialist society, you will be able to successfully solve all the problems you will encounter.

I reaffirm at this forum the desire of the RCP for close cooperation between our parties and countries in the interests of our people, so that the aims of fostering international understanding, peace, and development will achieve their goal. On 21 August the people of Romania celebrated the revolution that exploded 40 years ago opening a new chapter in national and social freedom that was antifascist and anti-imperialist and led to great changes in Romania and opened the way for the establishment of a socialist society, with many [words indistinct].

This historic occasion was celebrated during the time the 13th RCP congress was preparing to (?celebrate) many victories. While our 13th congress will point out the social, political, and economic development our country will pursue over the next 10 years, the basic aim of this will be to establish a developed socialist society and to implement the party's program regarding Romania's transition to communist construction.

It is a principle of the RCP, based on the dialectical unity of our country's internal and external policy, to expand international cooperation in a way that will be conducive to socialism, peace, the freedom of people, and development. This era is one in which grassroots social and national changes are being conducted and in which people are opposing imperialism, neocolonialism and antidetente forces, and struggle for their rights and self-determination.

On the other hand it is also an era in which we note the (?pressures) of disunity and the unprecedented arms race, and in which hangs the dangers of a new world war. The situation in the world has been further worsened because of the existence of certain conflicts and sources of tension and the creation of new ones and [word indistinct] world economic crisis. These are the reasons why we consider the curbing and even ending of the arms race, and in particular the nuclear arms race, and upholding mankind's right to existence, freedom, and peace the fundamental issues of the era.

Curbing the arms race will help in finding solutions to the problem of backwardness and will ensure that the economic and political scales in the world stay balanced, thereby easing tension and helping to implement in a new form the policies of detente and peace. We stand for the principles of finding solutions through peaceful means alone to misunderstandings among peoples, and on the other hand for a lasting peace in the Middle East which will ensure the rights of the Palestinian people to self-determination and the establishment of their own independent state.

We support the struggle by the Namibian peoples, under the leadership of SWAPO, for their immediate independence without any pressure and strongly condemn the policy of racism and apartheid in South Africa. [applause]

Romania attaches great importance to its relations with Africa in respect to the struggle by the African peoples to eliminate imperialism, colonialism, and neocolonialism, to bring about economic and social progress by strengthening their national independence, and through self-sufficiency. We commend the OAU's principles in its support for independence, freedom, and security so as to strengthen cooperation and to find political solutions between its members.

The RCP is strengthening its relations with workers and communist parties, with socialist and social democratic parties, and with other progressive and anti-imperialist parties and forces. Cooperation by the (?above) forces in this world situation will help toward solving problems in a democratic manner, upholding peoples interests, solving current world problems, and allowing progress, freedom, and peace to prevail.

Dear friends, we express our gratitude to you for inviting us to participate in this formation congress and we are certain that our relations will be further strengthened through cooperation between the RCP and the WPE. [applause]

Comrades, we take this opportunity to express our best wishes for the success of your formation congress and the work of your party which you will form today so that you reach the highest development stage through the socialist path by correctly interpreting the desires of the Ethiopian broad masses. [appaluse]

Long live friendship between the peoples of Romania and Ethiopia! Long live the WPE! Long live Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam! [applause]

Yugoslavia's Stojanovic Addresses Congress

EA182313 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1411 GMT 8 Sep 84

[Speech by Yugoslav delegate Nikola Stojanovic, member of the Presidium of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia Central Committee, at WPE Constituent Congress in Addis Ababa — live; in vernacular fading into Amharic translation]

[Text] Dear comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam dear delegates, guests and friends, in the name of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia [LCY], the working people, nations and nationalities, we would like to express our wish for the successful outcome of the WPE Constituent Congress. [applause] We greet participants and guests of this historical congress. [applause]

Dear comrades the LCY has observed with great respect Ethiopia's relentless efforts to implement the program of the National Democratic Revolution, to protect the identity of its country, to create a new socialist system of relations of production, accelerate its economic development and improve the general material situation of its people. The LCY has also followed with great interest the efforts to establish the vanguard political organization, meaning the party, which can help the further implementation of the NDR program.

The true organization which you formed after studying Ethiopia's objective reality in relation to the situation of your

country's working people, meaning COPWE, has played a major role in the efforts to establish the party. Through its major working activities COPWE has laid down a secure base for the party, in whose Constituent Congress we are now participating. We are confident that the party's basic organizations will help to implement democratic centralism and will enable the party to fulfill the desires of the working people and the country.

The central report presented by Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam is one that has exhaustively detailed the process of the revolution, clearly stated its aims and future guidelines, and is one that has the characteristics of a party program. Dear delegates, the LCY sincerely believes that the current horrifying and offensive international situation calls for the unwavering implementation of the principles of nonalignment. The situations that have intensified friction in international livelihood in general indicate that international relations have fallen into a deep crisis. The arms race is continuing even now. Beyond that, the race is continuing in space. This situation has become an excuse for shaking society, destabilization, and interference in the internal affairs of a country.

Because developing countries have fallen into a heavy economic crisis they have been forced to have an imbalanced relationship with developed countries. This was so because developed countries were unwilling to give access to their markets and it has become clear that the situation has deteriorated from day to day. The African Continent has been waging an arduous and relentless struggle for numerous years in defense of its dignity and freedom. Even so, the plots to jeopardize the freedom and well being of the continent's people and to sabotage the positive role played by the OAU is still continuing. Despite this, we have been able to learn from experience that the struggle waged by people for their independence and dignity and to foment progressive social change is invincible and is a true historical fact. [applause]

The struggle to liberate Southern Africa from colonialism is one being waged to free the whole continent. Therefore, it is necessary to totally eradicate apartheid's deeds, using international organizations as instruments, especially the United Nations, the OAU and other international forums, and struggle with increased vigor.

At this juncture, the LCY declares its solidarity with the struggle of the African people for political and economic independence, total freedom, and for the continent's peace and cooperation by erasing racism and apartheid. [applause] To realize that African countries like any other people have a right to be concerned about their independence, dignity, peace and well being is to realize that it is a major component for international peace and for increased trust to prevail.

This use of African [illegible]re, when it leads to confrontation between powerful countries, over and above endangering the independence of countries, will spoil and strain government relations on an international scale. This situation further magnifies the efforts being made by the OAU on a continental scale for improved cooperation between people. The LCY has great appreciation for the nonaligned principle as regards the statements on peace, independence and justice, and for democracy to exist in international political and economic relations, for respect of one country's independence and territorial integrity to be observed. It opposes imperialism, colonialism, neocolonialism, racism, and apartheid and supports the principle that one country should not interfere in the affairs of another country.

In its present objective reality, the OAU, by establishing close and peaceful relations between African countries and by blocking external pressure, can strengthen peace, which is a contribution to the well being of the people of the world. There is no alternative other than further enhancing the struggle being waged by progressive, democratic and peaceful forces for the continued prevalence of peace in the world. We are confident that the efforts, based on nonalignment, to change the current imbalance in the political, economic and information system will be a solution to eradicating the situation that is currently worrying the whole world.

Dear delegates, the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia will be a society in which the working class and workers, together with the LCY, which is the vanguard ideological and political force, will in unity be based on the principle of self-management.

Since we have created relations that embrace the producer and the working class and which solves the contradictions that occur in social and economic development, we have, in a way that adheres to a historical view, made the teachings of Marxism the basis of our livelihood. The 12th congress of the LCY affirmed that our domestic and foreign policy would not deviate from the path of political, social and economic development being pursued to administer the socialist system through self management, the revolution would continue as usual, and the unity and socialist union ovf Yugoslavia's nations and nationalities would be further strengthened and that our policy of independence and nonalignment would continue.

In short, it affirmed the unchanged continuity of the plan drafted by Tito. The LCY is strengthening its relations with numerous communist workers and progressive democratic parties. Our international cooperation is based on the principles of independence, mutual trust, justice, non-interference and mutual respect. The relations we had with COPWE were based on this principle. The future relations we will have with the WPE will be based on this. Our two parties are administered by their efforts for cooperation based on justice among all people, countries, and political parties for world peace, and their belief in socialist expansion on the basis of the objective reality of every country.

Dear Comrade Chairman Mengistu, dear comrades, in conclusion let me be allowed to present the greetings sent by the president of the LCY and the country to the participants of the congress and the leader of the party. [applause]

It is with great expectations that we await the results of your congress. We are confident that the WPE, under the leadership of Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, will implement the resolutions passed by the congress, which is a major component of your party, expand socialist construction in the interest of the Ethiopian people and consolidate great victories. [applause] The LCY is highly confident that cooperation over a wide spectrum will be created between our two parties in the interest of our two

nonaligned countries for peace, for socialism and so that all the people of the world can live in freedom and mutual respect. [applause] Long live the WPE. The struggle continues. [applause]

KENYA

Moi Presents Returned Exile Leaders at Rally

EA172001 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Excerpts] A total of 313 people from the north-eastern province who were in self-imposed exile in neighboring countries have returned back home in response to the government amnesty. Addressing one of the biggest rallies ever to assemble at Garissa, the president announced that, following the government's amnesty, 313 people recently returned back home and that another 18 people were introduced to the rally today after their return.

President Moi said that during his recent visit to Mogadishu he held discussions with President Siad Barre on the importance of peace in the region and that on return back home he was pleased to note that Kenyans who were [in] self-imposed exile had come back home.

The people who returned back home belonged to the Northern Frontier District Liberation Front High Command, popularly known as shifta. They include: Mr Wako Hapi Taro, who was the movement's second vice-president, aged 78 years; Shaykh Ali Abdullahi, aged 47 years and finance minister of the movement; Mr Ali Tahir Ibrahim, 54 years and military commander of the movement; Shaykh Adan Bulhan Muhammad, aged 68 years and political adviser; Mr Mukhtar Hapi Bare, 48 years; Mr Guyo Dika Wako 58 years; Mr Wako Hache Guyo, 49; Mr Hajow Kasin Molenye,70; Mr Bashir Yusuf Hasan, 43; Mr Wareh Toney Wareh Ali, 55; Mr Ahmad Wako Hapi, 22, son of the second vice president; Mr Abdi Adan Godana, 30; Mr Adan Uthman Muallim, 60; Mr Muallim Adam Husayn, 63; and Baganja Karayo Halkan, 55.

The president assured Wananchi in the province and elsewhere in the country that the government will ensure that there was enough food for the people, especially in boarding schools for the students.

He directed the provincial commissioners for north-eastern and coast provinces to locate appropriate land where cattle purchased from the province can be fed awaiting [while] transportation to the Kenya Meat Commission.

Amid thunderous applause, the president elevated the Garissa Urban Council to Town Council status.

The president reiterated his call to all leaders in the country to amplify and echo his policy in an effort to hasten the development of this country. He cautioned leaders to toe the government and party line and that those who engage in activities that are not in conformity with the accepted guidelines will not be condoned.

The function was also attended by the vice president and minister for home affairs, Mr Mwai Kibaki, Cabinet ministers, senior servants and leaders from all walks of life.

Moi Speech on Amnesty

EA172247 Nairobi Domestic Service in Swahili 1017 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Speech by President Daniel arap Moi in Garissa — live]

[Excerpts] I am happy today to announce that for the last several months, since the government announced an amnesty allowing people who are outside to return home, 313 people voluntarily came forward and said: We are returning home to cooperate with the citizens. [applause]

The 313 people surrendered about 363 weapons, each of them surrendering at least one. In addition, there were also 7,354 rounds of ammunition. [applause] They also brought forward some grenades and other types of weapons.

Apart from this, following my visit to the Republic of Somalia and my subsequent talks with its president on security in this area, I am pleased to say that citizens realized Africa needs peace, and since it needs peace there is no point spilling blood, since we fought for freedom to be fully independent.

Therefore, 18 youths and old men you saw in front of you returned home and are now with us. [applause] And I wish them blessing to live peacefully with the citizens and that they should collaborate with the citizens in the country's development, to achieve development so that people may continue to live without worries. [applause]

I wish also to say that there must be peace in Africa so the people of this continent may achieve development. All the children, including those you saw in front of you and those in front of me are looking for peace. They are also seeking education so they may progress and build their country. We must be seen holding development in high esteem, not wars — wars are pointless. It should be the aim of everyone and especially the young that Africa be linked into the United States of Africa. [applause] Small wars are meaningless to people who understand the value of life.

And you leaders, as MP's, have all realized that good leadership creates peace. If there is no good leadership, people's lives are lost, and I quote from the Bible: Where there is no guidance people fall.

And, as you are aware, when your leaders started meeting, saying they wanted the citizens to live peacefully, the citizens followed them and peace was shared. [applause] If you as a leader sought votes to be elected, you did not get their votes to leave them alone. You sought their votes to lead the citizens. Isn't this true?

And as you know, wherever you may be while representing or leading citizens, there could be all sorts of people. And if you practice discrimination, you could bring problems, you could create deaths, especially when people do not understand the realities of the situation. As Kenya's leader, am I the leader of a

particular corner? I am here for the whole of Kenya, and similarly as representatives from, say, Garissa, all of them including the minister and the MP's, look after the interests and needs of all the citizens living in Garissa [applause] and you who live in Wajir must also meet and unite all the people of Wajir regardless of whether they are Degodias or Ajurans [northeastern Kenya tribe].

You are leaders of all of them [applause] and you must make sure that all of them are led with justice, and everyone's complaints and every group's claims are taken into consideration and their problems solved peacefully. If there is a district commissioner or a district officer or a chief — all of you ought to meet together and discuss the problem and find ways of resolving it. I want this to be done because these children are under the government's protection, and we must defend them, so that they may grow up through proper means.As I have said, we Kenyans have no need to hate any country. We have neighbors like Tanzania, Uganda, Sudan, Ethiopia and Somalia. They are our friends. Let us all live in harmony so that the people in these countries can live in peace. I am saying this because these people have returned home and those who have returned should protect peace in this area so that people can look for their livelihood in a proper manner, conduct their businesses as they like and run their affairs to improve their living standards.

I will not allow people from Ethiopia to pass through Kenya to Somalia and nor will I allow people from Somalia to go to Ethiopia through Kenyan territory. [applause] My troops will continue to guard the borders to ensure that our borders are properly guarded and people are living in peace. We will cooperate with these two countries, the Somalis for the benefit of people in the area, and we will also cooperate with Ethiopians to ensure that we live in peace with them. We do not want to hate anybody. Our responsibility is to lead Kenya and develop Kenyans for further progress.

And today, I announce the extension of the amnesty for another month, [applause] One more month effective from today, and I hope that many people will take up this opportunity. It will extend until 17 October when the amnesty will end. So those still outside have a chance to return home, none of them will be stopped from coming back and no harm will be done to them. You know that we (? do) what we say, and there is nothing sinister in this, except for those who like to agitate — but that is their own (? problem). But those who live peacefully and maintain peace, they will definitely get good protection from the government. And on top of this, all of you must be vigilant and make sure that peace is maintained in this province.

TANZANIA

Treason Case Against Army Officers Opens

EA171831 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1700 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Text] Dar es Salaam — Nineteen people, including 14 Army officers, appeared in court in Dar es Salaam this morning. They were charged with treason, namely to kill President Nyerere and to overthrow the government by illegal means. The case has been adjourned until tomorrow.

The opening of the case follows renewed charges against 30 people against whom earlier charges were dismissed by the government in June of last year after two of the accused escaped from (Kiko) prison and fled to a neighboring country.

One of those who fled, captain (Hakim Agii), a pilot of the Air Tanzania Corporation, was among those who appeared in court today. All the accused except one asked to be represented by a lawyer.

Reportage of Prime Minister's PRC Visit

For coverage of the visit to the People's Republic of China by Prime Minister Salim Ahmad Salim, see the Middle East & Africa section of the 18 September China *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

UGANDA

Briefs

Students Go To Moscow — A group of 30 Ugandan students has left for the Soviet Union to undertake various technical courses. Speaking to the students before their departure yesterday, the head of Culture Department in the Soviet Embassy in Uganda, Mr (Aromo), appealed to them to work hard and foster Uganda's image in the Soviet Union. He told the students to come back after their studies and participate actively in the rehabilitation of the country's economy. [Text] [*Kampala Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 16 Sep 84 EA*]

SFRY Envoy To Depart — President Obote has said the foundation of cooperation between Uganda and Yugoslavia will continue to be firm. Dr Obote was receiving the outgoing Yugoslav Ambassador to Uganda, Mr Ranko Balorda, who called on him at his office in parliament buildings in Kampala this morning. The president and the envoy discussed a wide range of issues affecting bilateral cooperation between Uganda and Yugoslavia. The discussions were attended by the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Dr Albert Picho Owiny and senior government officials. Mr Balorda has been Yugoslav ambassador to Uganda since October 1980. [Text] [*Kampala Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 17 Sep 84 EA*]

Equatorial Guinean Leader Signs UDEAC Agreement

AB181910 Brazzaville Domestic Service in French 1230 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Excerpts] Equatorial Guinea head of state Theodoro Obiang Nguema Mbasogo returned home today at the end of a 24-hour visit to the Congolese capital during which he and President Denis Sassou-Nguesso, current chairman of the UDEAC [Customs and Economic Union of Central Africa] signed an agreement to extend UDEAC technical assistance to Equatorial Guinea.

The agreement on technical assistance which was signed by the two leaders will enable other UDEAC members to assist Equatorial Guinea in strengthening its administrative structure. To this end, the UDEAC, which operates a fund to sustain this technical assistance program, will send two tax inspectors, two veterinarians, and several other specialists to Equatorial Guinea beginning next October.

CAMEROON

Biya, Equatorial Guinea President Hold Talks

AB181830 Yaounde Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] President Teodoro Obiang Nguema Mbasogo of Equatorial Guinea today held talks in Yaounde with the head of state, Paul Biya. The talks were expected to center on bilateral issues and international questions. President Mbasogo arrived in Yaounde this morning where he was received at the airport by President Paul Biya. The Equatorial Guinea president leaves for his country tomorrow morning.

His last visit to Cameroon was in 1982 to participate as an observer in the summit meeting of the Central African Customs and Economic Union, UDEAC. Last December, Equatorial Guinea became a full member of UDEAC.

Briefs

Consulate in Gabon — A consulate has been opened in the Gabonese town of Oyem in the interest of Cameroonians living in the northern section of Gabon. This is contained in a presidential decree issued today. [Excerpt] [*Yaounde Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 17 Sep 84 AB*]

CHAD

Developments, Reaction to Withdrawal Agreement

First French Troops Depart

LD191028 Paris Domestic Service in French 1000 GMT 19 Sep 84

[Text] One hundred and fifty men from the 1st Hussars Parachute Regiment at Tarbes arrived this morning at Toulouse airport from Ndjamena in Chad. Immediately on disembarking from the plane, the parachustists set off in their trucks to return to their garrison at Tarbes.

Ndjamena: Decision 'Premature'

AB182230 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] It is an accord between cheaters, signed on the back of Chad, but Chad has nothing to gain from the accord. This statement was made by President El-Hadj Hissein Habre after Morocco and Al-Qadhdhafi's Libya signed a union treaty. A few days later, on his return from the Holy Land where he had performed his religious duties, the head of state reiterated his position: This is an accord between cheaters. Since then, things had remained as they were, until last night. Then, another agreement was signed by Libya and — this time — France. The agreement affects Chad, which has won a sad reputation in the media. All newspapers and radios have been reporting on the latest agreement providing for the simultaneous withdrawal of the French and the Libyan troops from Chad. The date of the withdrawal is known. The simultaneous withdrawal begins on 25 September, that is next weekend, and all troops will be withdrawn from Chad by mid-November. These are the facts as announced by the French and Libyan Governments. The news was learned in Chad just yesterday, at the same time the international media organizations learned of it. Indeed, French Defense Minister Charles Hernu had come to Ndjamena for a few hours in order to inform the Chadian Government of the fait accompli. Nevertheless, the surprise was a big one. As the CHADIAN PRESS AGENCY [ATP] writes: The decision is premature.

Although France (?has demonstrated) its desire to come to terms with Libya in order to withdraw simultaneously from the Chadian territory, ATP writes, the abruptness of this decision, made without the knowledge of the Chadian authorities, is undoubtedly surprising. ATP goes on to say: The Chadian authorities received the news with great serenity because the government of the Third Republic and all Chadians are hoping that the Libyan occupation troops will leave our territory.

The presence of the French troops is undeniably justified by the presence of the Libyan troops who have occupied more than half of our territory. So, if the accord results in the withdrawal of the occupation troops, this will only meet the expectations that Chadians have had since (?1973). ATP adds: But then there is the big question that all Chadians are asking: Will Al-Qadhdhafi respect such an accord? For someone who knows him as a cunning and unstable man and who also knows his true

intentions, which is the annexation of Chad, it is a hard pill to swallow, ATP writes.

How far will Libya pull back? In answering this question, ATP says: For us it is clear that Libya's aggression against and occupation of Chad will only end when Libya has pulled back behind the internationally recognized border between the two countries, that is after Libya has evacuated the Aozou Strip. The territorial integrity of Chad, to which the French are committed, does not end in Faya-Largeau or in Bardai.

Libya will continue to be a threat to our country as long as it maintains a base in Aozou from which it can invade Chad any time. The withdrawal of the Libyan troops will not automatically mean the end of Libya's presence. The Libyan Army, comprising the Islamic Legion in particular, is mostly composed of black mercenaries recruited from various African countries such as Benin, Sudan, the CAR, and so on. So Al-Qadhdhafi will find it quite easy to class them as the troops of Goukouni who had no army on leaving Ndjamena on 7 June 1982.

All these factors make us uncertain about a real pullout of the Libyan troops. This is becaue the understanding between the French and the Libyans offers no guarantee. In our mind, the presence of foreign observers will change nothing in this main factor of permanent threat by Libya. Al-Qadhdhafi can break the agreement at any time. On several occasions he has shown that he would not be troubled by any scruples when it comes to defending his country's expansionist interests. The agency went on to say that France's sovereign decision to leave our country is consistent with the French Government's policy. France has always linked its presence with the situation of aggression which Chad is facing. It came to help the Chadians. It should, however, ensure that all the conditions guaranteeing their integrity and their sovereignty are met. This is not the case. Therefore, the French decision, in our view, is somehow premature. We understand that the French Government, for reason of domestic policy, chooses to pull out its forces from Chad. We accept this decision with a clear mind because we have always believed and repeated that we must first of all rely on ourselves.

The French-Libyan accord, despite the effects of surprise it has generated, will not (?worry) Chadians at all. The Chadian people are sufficiently organized and fully aware now to face any external threat. We want to preserve our dignity and will not hesitate to assume our responsibilities to safeguard the gains of 7 June 1982. To this end, Chad will spare no efforts to ensure that the important rehabilitation and redress program of our country, which was embarked upon over 2 years ago, is not reduced to nothing.

GUNT Figure Comments

LD181058 Paris Domestic Service in French 0530 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] Today's main news is the announcement of the French and Libyan troop withdrawal from Chad by Paris and Tripoli which is to start in a week's time. So, Yves Loiseau, Mr Adam Yacoub, spokesman for Goukouni Oueddei, the president of the Chadian Transitional National Union Government, GUNT, is on the line from Tripoli. Mr Adam Yacoub, good morning.

[Yacoub] Good morning.

[Studio journalist Caloni] So, it would appear that the GUNT knew about this withdrawal of the French and Libyan troops from Chad whereas Hissene Habre's foreign minister claims he heard about this withdrawal through the press. So if you knew, how did you know?

[Yacoub] Personally, I have been in possession of a file on this for nearly a month and I had talks with my Libyan colleagues in the Foreign Ministry on four occasions over the past month. So, on behalf of the GUNT, I followed up the evolution of all the discussions leading up to this agreement on simultaneous withdrawal.

[Loiseau] Does this not suprise you, Adam Yacoub, that Ndjamena should not have known about this agreement?

[Yacoub] Well, I do not know at all what happens in Ndjamena. If they say that they have not been associated with the development of the consultations, I cannot comment on this.

[Loiseau] You said that you met representatives of the Tripoli government on four occasions, but have you met directly with French envoys in this affair?

[Yacoub] No, absolutely not, at no time.

[Loiseau] When you met the Libyans, did you have the feeling that the whole thing was being led by the Libyans or were the French controlling the negotiations?

[Yacoub] I think that for the two sides there was necessarily, at a given time, a point of view which prevailed and that was that the situation in Chad was stalemated. It could not last forever. It was of the interest of all sides in the Chadian conflict, which lasted for so long, to find a way to unblock the situation. Therefore, on one occasion France took the initiative, on another Libya did. In any case, no one was calling the tune, there was a common interest, so to speak, in wanting to reach an agreement on this issue.

[Caloni] Adam Yacoub, let us now look at the future. As early as yesterday the GUNT said it was satisfied with the announcement of the withdrawal of French and Libyan troops, so let us go a bit further. How can the situation loosen up among Chad's internal forces?

[Yacoub] The first thing on this withdrawal is that Hissein Habre, under French and Zairean protection, had become arrogant in this matter. He will now have to be more reasonable, because what we want is the possibility of finding a peaceful and negotiated solution to the problem. We went to all the meetings, we agreed to all mediations. Ndjamena has always refused. So, given this, we think it is now really likely that negotiations will take place to find a peaceful, long-lasting solution to this issue. This is the most important aspect after the announcement of this agreement. The second most important aspect, I shall take

advantage of this occasion to say it, is the second time that Libya, who intervened at the GUNT's request in Chad in 1980-81, now respects its commitments. There was a lot of speculation on the so-called Libyans will to occupy Chad permanently, etc. As for us, we have always been confident. In 1981, when we asked Libya to withdraw, it did withdraw under the conditions you know; we therefore think that the present agreement removes a certain number of prejudices in some minds in the face of this reality.

[Caloni] Adam Yacoub, the Libyans are going to withdraw, in particular from Faya Largeau, and you know that Hissein Habre attaches a lot of importance to Faya largeau since he comes from near there. So, when the Libyans have withdrawn, can one imagine Hissene Habre going to Faya Largeau?

[Yacoub] Faya Largeau does not belong to Hissein only. If we are to talk of those who come from there, I myself originate from Faya Largeau. This is not the point. The point is that a political government in Chad is only viable insofar as it can claim control over all Chadian territory. On the other hand, today, we do not control the whole of the territory. Hissein does not either. He will not succeed by force, probably no one will. Anyway, this is not to be hoped. It will therefore be necessary to negotiate to find a solution which satisfies the two sides.

[Loiseau] Another small question I would like to ask you Mr Yacoub: A few months ago, you and the Libyans were saying that there were no Libyan soldiers in northern Chad, but only technical advisers. So today, there is a lot of talking about the withdrawal, as you have just confirmed. Is it a question of the withdrawal of military advisers or were there really Libyan soldiers in northern Chad?

[Yacoub] I do not have it in front of me, but the communique which was jointly issued in Paris and Tripoli is very clear on this: It talks of the withdrawal of French troops and the Libyan elements of support to the GUNT army. So, on this, there is absolutely no change in what we have always said. It is a question of elements of support to the GUNT.

[Caloni] A last question, Adam Yacoub. You are in Tripoli. How is the announcement on the French and Libyan troops being received by the Libyans?

[Yacoub] To tell the truth, I have not seen the people's reaction in Tripoli because I am not very often in the street. I have official contacts at the office level or else I am where you got in touch with me, but I think it is always a good thing to know that a certain number of people who have been absent are to return to their family. In any case, one will be mostly relieved by the fact that in the communique which was issued yesterday there is a small paragraph which talks of the resumption and the normalization of the relations between France and Libya. I think this should make everybody happy.

[Caloni] Are you optimistic?

[Yacoub] Yes, totally.

[Caloni] Thank you, Adam Yacoub.

CDR Official Calls for Talks

AB191416 Paris AFP in French 1326 GMT 19 Sep 84

[Text] Paris, 19 Sep (AFP) — On Wednesday, Thiam Tidjani, representative of the CDR (Revolutionary Democratic Council) to France, expressed the hope that Chadians "will urgently come together at a table to find a negotiated solution to their problem" following the French-Libyan accord to pull out from Chad.

In a statement issued in Paris, Mr Tidjani also recalled that the CDR, one of the main components of the Transitional National Union Government, has always supported a "political solution" to the Chadian crisis.

Minister Leaves for Lome, Dakar With Habre Messages

AB182040 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] The minister delegate to the presidency of the Republic in charge of information, Mahamat Soumaila, left Ndjamena this afternoon for Lome and Dakar. The minister is bearer of messages from the head of state to his counterparts, Gnassingbe Eyadema and Abdou Diouf respectively.

Citizens Reportedly Flee to CAR Due to South Fighting

AB171945 Paris AFP in French 1842 GMT 17 Sep 84

Kinshasa, 17 Sep (AFP) — Two thousand Chadians have found refuge in CAR these days after fleeing battles in southern Chad, Abdou Essaied, the regional delegate of the UN High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) disclosed to the AFP today. Between 7,000 and 10,000 Chadians have already found refuge in CAR, he said in Kinshasa where the UNHCR delegation is located. According to Essaied, almost all the refugees are in Bangui, the capital.

2.6 Billion CFA Franc Aid Agreement Signed With FRG

AB182141 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Excerpt] Within the framework of the cooperation between Chad and the FRG, the two governments this morning signed an aid agreement for a total of 2.6 billion CFA francs. The money will be used to enhance the measures taken for the reconstruction of Chad as well as to step up the implementation of priority projects such as agricultural production, water supply, and road construction.

EQUATORIAL GUINEA

Briefs

New PRC Ambassador — The new PRC ambassador to Malabo, His Excellency Liu Fangpu, yesterday paid a courtesy call on Prime Minister Christino Seriche Bioko, within the

framework of his diplomatic mission to Equatorial Guinea. [Excerpt] [*Malabo Domestic Service in Spanish 0700 GMT 18 Sep 84 AB*]

GABON

Bongo Departs for Japan, ROK, Thailand, Hong Kong

AB171253 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French 1230 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Excerpts] After Morocco, Asia: A day after his return from Fes, where he was on a 2-day private visit, President Bongo left Libreville this morning for an Asian tour which will take him to Japan, the ROK, Thailand, and Hong Kong. The visit is aimed at strengthening the so far modest economic and political relations with the countries concerned.

After Japan, South Korea, and Thailand, Mr Bongo will visit Hong Kong, the last leg of his Asian tour. It must be said that Asia is Gabon's fourth economic partner after France, the United States, and EEC countries.

ZAIRE

Mobutu Happy With French-Libyan Accord

AB181410 Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 1130 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] The president of the Republic, Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko, received French President Francois Mitterrand's adviser for African affairs [Guy Penne] a few moments ago at Mont Ngaliema. The MPR founding chairman is satisfied with the French-Libyan disengagement agreement which he has described as a very good thing. He personally said this to the AZAP managing director following his discussions with Guy Penne.

Concerning the fate of the Zairian troops stationed in Chad, Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko promised that on his return from the United States and Europe he would send an envoy to President Hissein Habre so that they may discuss what Zaire and Chad should do.

Meanwhile, I ask you to listen to President Francois Mitterrand's adviser following his audience with the head of state:

[Begin recording] [Penne] The president of the Republic of France has sent me to the founding chairman in order to give him the complete details of the measures decided upon by [French External Relations Minister] Claude Cheysson and Colonel al-Qadhdhafi. As you have learned through the interview given yesterday by Claude Cheysson in France, and the communique published yesterday both in Paris and Tripoli, steps are being taken to withdraw the French forces and the Libyan forces supporting the Transitional National Union Government. This withdrawal concerns the troops as well as the equipment and materials. This will begin on 25 September. A whole timetable has been prepared and there are special arrangements concerning the details of these operations. As requested by the president of the Republic of France, I can give you only the main points and not the complete details of the agreement concluded between France and Libya.

[Unidentified reporter] This will be a simultaneous withdrawal whereas President Mitterrand had once said that the Libyans should be the first to leave to be followed by the French.

[Penne] It will be a simultaneous withdrawal, a concomitant and total withdrawal. Of course, I have come here because Zaire also is present in Chad.

[Reporter] And what did you discuss with the president?

[Penne] It is President Mobutu himself who should say what he thinks about this problem but it is unthinkable that France should take steps involving Zaire without keeping Zaire informed about them. Since there has been cooperation between the various troops, President Mobutu will make decisions which will be in the (?general interest).

You know that the president will be received by the president of the Republic of France at 1200 on Thursday. The founding chairman will be going to Washington and he will take advantage of his private visit to Paris to meet with President Mitterrand. I must also say that before going to the Bujumbura conference, the French president will visit Zaire in the days immediately preceeding the French-African conference of Bujumbura. This visit may take place between 18 and 19 December [dates as heard]. It is now only a question of protocol but this visit has been admitted in principle.

[Reporter] Mr Adviser, let us come back to the Chadian issue. How did President Hissein Habre receive this decision by France and Libya? We know that Chad is facing a permanent security problem and particularly the problem of preparing troops to ensure its territorial integrity.

[Penne] Listen: We have always said that we would withdraw our troops as soon as the Libyans withdrew theirs.

[Reporter] Completely?

[Penne] Yes. This has always been the intention. We have always said that there can be no military solution and that the only solution was national reconciliation. This is why we have always supported very strongly attempts such as the proposed Brazzaville conference and we believe reconciliation will be (?possible) after the withdrawal of the foreign troops. [end recording]

Penne Briefs Mobutu

AB182115 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1840 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] Kinshasa, 18 Sep (AZAP) — Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko received Guy Penne, French President Francois Mitterrand's adviser, on Tuesday at Camp Tshatshi. Mr Penne was sent to Zaire by President Mitterrand to give President Mobutu details on the arrangements made by French Minister of External Relations Claude Cheysson and Colonel al-Qadhdhafi for the

withdrawal of Libyan and French troops from Chad.

This withdrawal, which will be simultaneous and total, will begin at midnight on 25 September. It will be a withdrawal of both men and equipment, the French head of state's envoy pointed out. Zaire, which also has an armed contingent in Chad following a legitimate request made by that country, needs to know the minutest details about these arrangements, Guy Penne added.

In this regard, Mr Mitterrand's adviser for African affairs said that Marshal Mobutu may announce decisions concerning the Zairian troops stationed in Chad — decisions that would lead to a general abatement of the Chadian crisis. Though he did not give any details about these decisions, he nevertheless said that only the total withdrawal of foreign troops from Chad could lead to a negotiated and peaceful solution to the conflict. That is why Chad's friends encourage efforts that will lead to the convening of the reconciliation conference, scheduled to take place in Brazzaville. He announced that French President Mitterrand would visit Zaire at the invitation of Marshal Mobutu. This visit will take place a few days before the French and African heads of state conference in Bujumbura, scheduled probably for 8 and 9 December, he said.

The guide [Mobutu] will meet his French counterpart in Paris next week within the framework of bilateral talks. Citizens Seti Yale, the head of state's special security counselor; Citizen Kimasi, the Zairian ambassador to Paris; and Jean Kientz, the French ambassador to Zaire, will be present at the audience.

AZAP Welcomes French-Libyan Decision To Leave Chad

AB191211 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1040 GMT 19 Sep 84

[AZAP Commentary: "A Step in the Right Direction"]

[Text] Kinshasa, 19 Sep (AZAP) — There is no doubt that something is changing in Chad following the simultaneous disengagement accord recently concluded between France and Libya.

As the first African country to send a contingent to Chad at the request of that country's legitimate government, Zaire cannot but rejoice over this agreement because it will accelerate the advent of the much-expected negotiated solution of the Chadian problem. Zaire's support of the withdrawal of foreign troops from Chad should not surprise anyone considering the fact that Kinshasa — through Marshal Mobutu — recently announced the launching of a program of military training for Chadians who will progressively replace the Zairian contingent stationed in Chad.

Some questions remain, however. What can one really expect from a simultaneous withdrawal of foreign troops from Chad? Is France not running the risk of falling into a trap laid by Libya which might want to break the existing status quo? Does the expression simultaneous and total withdrawal mean the same thing to Tripoli and Paris? In short, will the withdrawal of foreign forces include the Aozou strip which Libya has been occupying for many years now in contempt of the principles of the OAU?

Whatever the answers may be, it must be noted that the French-Libyan decision has come at the right time. In fact, coming on the eve of the head of state's European and American tour, this decision can become a topic of discussion between Zaire and its partners. Moreover, in view of the forthcoming 20th summit conference of the OAU which will unfailingly discuss the Chadian issue, the French-Libyan decision appears like a shortcut in Chad's national reconciliation process because the considerably weakened opposition to President Hissein Habre's regime had once made the withdrawal of foreign troops the condition for any negotiation.

In the present circumstances, the decision on a simultaneous and total withdrawal of foreign troops from Chad can only be a step in the right direction: that of the conference of reconciliation which Chad's friends hope will be held in Brazzaville.

BENIN

Briefs

Outgoing FRG Ambassador — The FRG ambassador, His Excellency Bernd Oldenkott, today called on Comrade Romain Vilon Guezo, acting president of the Republic and chairman of the Permanent Committee of the National Revolutionary Assembly, to take leave of him, and also to deliver a message to President Kerekou from the FRG chancellor, congratulating him upon his reelection during the last presidential elections. [Summary] [*Cotonou Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 14 Sep 84 AB*]

BURKINA

Sankara Messages to Mitterrand, Al-Qadhdhafi

AB172110 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Text] Following the announcement of the simultaneous withdrawal of French and Libyan troops from Chad, Comrade Thomas Sankara, chairman of the National Council of the Revolution [CNR] and head of state, sent two congratulatory messages to his French and Libyan counterparts today. Here are the contents:

To His Excellency Francois Mitterrand, President of the French Republic: Mr President, I have just learned with true satisfaction of your wise decision to withdraw all French troops stationed on Chadian territory. Just as I did in the case of your withdrawal from Lebanon, I am acting today, in the case of Chad, as the spokesman of my people and of the CNR to express our sincere support for this decision and for any future decisions you may make for the freedom of people's and for their inalienable right to freely choose their own destiny.

The Burkinabe people, who have always advocated the path you have just chosen, share the joy of the French and Chadian peoples. You are sparing them heavy and useless financial and other war costs, especially those costs borne by orphans, widows, widowers, and other innocent victims. We strongly hope that this decision will be rigorously applied unreservedly and unconditionally. We are convinced that your courageous decision is the precursor of a new approach to an analysis of African realities and a necessary change in relations between France and Africa, which will no longer be as they were. Please accept, Mr President, the assurance of the permanent readiness of the Burkinabe people to continue their efforts at all levels to fight the just cause of all people.

Signed, Captain Thomas Sankara, Chairman of the CNR and President of the fatherland

The second message was addressed to Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, head of the Libyan revolution, head of the Libyan Arab people's socialist revolution in Tripoli.

Dear Brother: It was with profound joy that we learned of your decision to proceed with the withdrawal of your troops from Chad simultaneously with the French and Zairian troops. This is the confirmation of — and we are happy [words indistinct] on the Chadian issue. [Words indistinct] the legitimate aspirations for peace and liberty of their people and for people of the world. We are convinced that your courageous decision will [words indistinct] the people of Chad in the search for a democratic and popular solution in order to reconquer their freedom and dignity.

Please accept, Dear Libyan Brother, the assurance of the support of the Burkinabe people in all your endeavors [words indistinct]. Brotherly and friendly greetings.

Signed, Captain Thomas Sankara, Chairman of the CNR, President of the fatherland

WHO Session Rejects Election Postponement Proposal

AB181141 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 17 Sep 84

["Press Communique" released by the Public Health Ministry in Ouagadougou on 17 September]

[Text] The representative of the Burkinabe Public Health Ministry at the 34th session of the WHO Regional Committee for Africa in Brazzaville today informed us by telex that the proposal of the comrade chairman of the National Council of the Revolution calling for the postponement of the examination of item No 6 of the agenda relating to the election of the regional director was rejected on 14 September following a long and stormy debate.

The secret vote gave the following result: 16 voted for, 26 voted against, and there was one abstention. However, this result should be considered a new victory for the Burkinabe revolution because, although it was not adopted, our proposal surely has a great political significance because it notably contributed to increase the respect and admiration of the member countries present for our militant people.

After the vote, Prof (Monet Kosso) of Cameroon was elected the WHO regional director for Africa by the 34th session of the Regional Committee for 5 years beginning 1 February 1985.

GHANA

Burkina Delivers Cattle Under Barter Agreement

AB142019 Accra Domesitc Service in English 1800 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Text] One hundred heads of cattle from Burkina Faso have arrived in Ghana as payment of a debt owed by that country to Ghana. They are the first batch of 800 head of cattle expected from Burkina Faso for the settlement of a debt of 106,400 pounds. The secretary for trade, Mr Ato Ahwoi, who took delivery of the cattle in Accra today, recalled that last May Ghana signed a trade agreement with Burkina Faso for the payment of a debt in cattle and also for the supply of cattle in

exchange for salt from Ghana. Another 100 cattle are at present under quarantine in Porga on the Ghana-Burkina Faso border to be distributed to other regions. Mr Ato Ahwoi said under the barter agreement, the meat-marketing board has to deliver 521 tons of salt to Burkina Faso for 112 head of cattle. He disclosed that under another term of the agreement, the meat-marketing board and the meat division of Gihoc [Ghana Industrial Holding Corporation] will import cattle from Burkina Faso after the necessary agreements are concluded. Part of that batch will be used to start cattle production on a large scale in Ghana. The secretary expressed the government's gratitude to Burkina Faso for honoring its debt obligation. He said this is a further testimony of the concrete cooperation between the two countries.

SDAR, Other Envoys Present Credentials

AB172250 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Text] Four foreign envoys this morning presented their letters of credence to a member of the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council], Mr Justice J.S. Annan, at the Castle, Osu. They are from the SDAR, Sierra Leone, Trinidad and Tobago, and the DPRK.

Receiving the credentials of the ambassador of the SDAR, Mr (Khadhadhi el-Haiba), Mr Justice Annan said the ceremony represents an important landmark in the dynamic relationship that binds the two countries. He said by recognizing the Polisario Front and its state in 1979, Ghana did not only reject Morocco's immoral claim to Western Sahara but also condemned her persistent disregard for the voices of the people of Western Czechoslovakian ambassador to Ghana, Mr Frantisek Lundak, today paid a farewell call on Mr Justice J.S. Annan, a member of the Provisional National Defense Council (PNDC), at the state house in Accra. Mr Lundak will leave for home next week after 5 and 1/2 years duty tour of the country. [Excerpt] [*Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 18 Sep 84*]

IVORY COAST

Military Regions, Roles Defined, Explained

AB132325 Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN in French 12 Sep 84 pp 20,21

[Text] At the Cabinet meeting on 25 July, upon the recommendation of Jean Konan Banny, minister of defense, the president of the Republic, Felix Houphouet-Boigny, signed a decree on the composition of military regions and the legions of the gendarmerie. Our country will therefore be divided into four regions: the First Military Region of Abidjan; the Second Military Region of Daloa; the Third Military Region of Bouake; and the Fourth Military Region of Korhogo. We wanted to know more about the organization and functioning of these regions, so we contacted the Ministry of Defense for more information.

[Question] How do you define military region? How did you decide on these military regions and how do you demarcate them geographically?

[Answer] A military region is a district comprising a certain number of areas. Its commanding officer performs his duties as territorial commander, on behalf of and under the control of the Ministry of Defense and the chief of staff of the National Armed Forces of the Ivory Coast (FANCI), who are in charge of the territory (as opposed to the commander of the FANCI headquarters troops).

[Question] What is the role of a military region? And above all, what are the logistic means at its disposal to fulfill its mission?

[Answer] The military region plays several roles:

— a representational role (representing the Armed Forces in general) and as a liaison service for the local administrative and political authorities;

— a coordination role for regional military and civilian defense measures;

— an operational role on governmental decisions.

A military region does not presently have any special logistic means but can take advantage of all or part of the FANCI structures to carry out its missions.

[Question] Is there any complementarity or duality between a military region and a gendamerie legion? For example, who would be in charge in Bouake in case of an emergency? Is it the commanding officers stationed there or the military region's commanding officers?

[Answer] There are both duality and complementarity between the two. There is duality as the legion has its own administrative and judiciary policies. There is complementarity because the gendamerie maintains order eventually with the support of the FANCI and entirely depends on the chief of staff of the FANCI, through the commanding officer of the region, for its internal defense mission which is its main mission.

[Question] Do military regions depend on the minister of defense or the FANCI headquarters?

[Answer] The military regions have a joint services status. From the military defense point of view, they depend on the FANCI. And in the civilian defense framework, they depend on the minister of defense (it is worth recalling that the Interior Ministry is in charge of civil defense and calls on the Ministry of Defense when necessary).

[Question] Would the military regions suffice to cover the whole country given the fact that there are obstacles which hinder the swift deployment of our forces? For example, if the First Battalion had to deploy forces up to Bouna under attack, would it be able to deploy in time for a successful counterattack?

[Answer] The regions are an administrative structure within which defense and protection plans are prepared for civilian and military defense. Therefore, they mainly take care of a defense which can be described as passive compared to the FANCI intervention.

Concerning the ability of FANCI to respond massively and rapidly to an aggression, it must be noted that it is an issue that does not fall within the framework of this topic which covers only the military regions.

[Question] The president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, once said: "I want a small but well-trained and well-equipped army." Is this concept valid in 1984 when we know that the world is in permanent conflict? Can a small army face an all-round aggression? Is our Army sufficiently equipped with modern weapons?

[Answer] A foreign head of state who is now dead, once said: Politics is war without bloodshed, and war is politics with bloodshed.

Ivory Coast knows very well that no country in the subregion has the means or desire to engage in an arms race such as that of the superpowers. It has sought to eliminate all sources of discord with its neighbors which to us is the best kind of protection. But since our world is unstable and dangerous, it has acquired the means to deter its potential enemies from aggressing against it. The actual strength of our Army can be reinforced by forces from friendly countries with which we have signed nonaggression and (or) mutual defense agreements.

Table appended to Decree No 84-915 of 25 July 1984 on the Composition of the Military Regions and National Gendamerie Legions:

First military region and first gendarmerie legion, headquartered in Abidjan, includes the following provinces: Abengourou, Abidjan, Aboisso, Adzope, Agboville, Bongouanou, Dimbokro, Divo, and Lakota.

Second military region and second gendarmerie legion, headquartered in Daloa, includes the following provinces: Biankouma, Bouafle, Daloa, Danane, Gagnoa, Guiglo, Issia, Man, Oume, Sassandra, Soubre, and Zuenoula.

Third military region and third gendarmerie legion, headquartered in Bouake, includes the following provinces: Bondoukou, Bouake, Bouna, Dabakala, Ferkessedougou, and Katiola.

Fourth military region and fourth gendarmerie legion, headquartered in Korhogo, includes the following provinces: Boundiali, Korhogo, Mankono, Odienne, Seguela, Tengrela, and Touba.

Loan, Subsidy Agreements Signed With Canada

AB141757 Abidjan Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 13 Sep 84

[Text] Our country and Canada yesterday signed a loan agreement totaling 8.5 billion CFA francs and also a subsidy agreement worth 1 billion CFA francs. These sums of money are to help in consolidating the Ivorian economy and in creating commercial and industrial links between Canada and the Ivory Coast. The loan is refundable in 50 years with a 10-year grace period. It is also interest-free. Ivorian Finance Minister Abdoulaye Kone signed for our country while John Bell, the Canadian ambassador to the Ivory Coast, signed for his country.

LIBERIA

Some Alleged Coup Plotters Reportedly Released

AB180847 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0655 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] One of the accused arrested last month in connection with the alleged coup plot to overthrow the Liberian Government, Isaac Nyeplu, has reportedly been released. A report in the *DAILY OBSERVER* newspaper yesterday, quoting the *SUN DAY EXPRESS*, said Mr Nyeplu was seen Saturday at his Paynesville residence near Monrovia. According to the *OBSERVER*, when his home was contacted on Sunday for confirmation of the reports, security officers on duty there said Mr Nyeplu, who is also a member of the Special Elections Commission, was resting at home. The paper said another person released was Jacob Nimely, the chief police intelligence officer who was also detained last month in connection with the alleged coup plot. However, there has not been official government confirmation on the releases and there is no indication of what has happened to the others detained last month in connection with the alleged coup plot, including Dr Amos Sawyer, George Kieh, former speaker of the Interim National Assembly [INA], Major General J. Nicholas Podier, and two INA members, Colonel Lary Borteh and Colonel Jerry Friday Jorley.

MALI

Traore Returns From Nouakchott Meeting, Comments

AB181204 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Text] The Mali-Mauritania-Algeria informal summit meeting has ended. The Algerian and Malian heads of state have returned to their respective countries. General Moussa Traore arrived in Bamako at 1100. He made the return trip in the company of his friend and brother, President Chadli Bendjedid, who made a stopover in Bamako before flying to Algiers. General Moussa Traore talked to our special correspondent Oumar Sangare and said that this consultative meeting was aimed at harmonizing the views of the three countries. Listen:

[Begin Traore recording] First of all, I would like to say that this consultative meeting was mainly aimed at coordinating and harmonizing our views. Yesterday, I answered a question by PANA [PAN-AFRICAN NEWS AGENCY] on a possible alliance between Mali, Mauritania, and Algeria by saying that the word alliance was not a suitable one. I would say that there is a tacit complicity between our three countries; a complicity in the superior interest of the African peoples and of African development.

Each time we meet, we always draw common conclusions as far as our individual problems are concerned as well as African and international problems. As my brother and friend President Bendjedid said on his arrival in Bamako from Nouakchott, we held discussions and drew common conclusions concerning the

OAU, Chad, Western Sahara, and southern Africa. Yesterday, I told you the conclusions we reached concerning these various issues. On the eve of the forthcoming OAU summit conference, we think that our colleague will share our views in order to enable our continental organization to find suitable solutions to all our problems.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my friend and brother, President Khouna Ould Haydala of Mauritania, for the excellent conditions that enabled us to hold this conference and particularly for the very African welcome and hospitality. I also thank my brother and friend, Chadli Bendjedid, who kindly took charge of the transportation of the Malian delegation to Nouakchott and back to Bamako and thus enabled us to participate in this consultative conference between the brotherly and friendly countries of Algeria, Mauritania, and Mali. [end recording]

President Traore Receives France's Nucci 18 Sep

AB182152 Bamako Domestic Service in French 2015 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Excerpt] French Minister for Cooperation and Development Christian Nucci arrived in Bamako this afternoon for a short visit. He came from Dakar where he was received by Senegalese head of state Abdou Diouf. Just after his arrival in Bamako, he was received in audience by General Moussa Traore, with whom he is still having talks.

Briefs

Envoys Present Credentials — Two new ambassadors to Mali this morning presented their credentials to the president of the Republic, General Moussa Traore. They are Ahmed Amrani for the Democratic Republic of Algeria and Robert J. Ryan, Jr, for the United States. [Excerpt] [*Bamako Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 14 Sep 84 AB*]

NIGERIA

Agreement To End Doctor's Strike Reached

AB181620 Lagos NAN in English 1615 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] Lagos, Sept 18 (NAN) — The Nigerian Medical Association (NMA) has called off the strike by the National Association of Resident Doctors (NARD) following an agreement reached in Lagos today between representatives of the NMA and officials of the Federal Military Government. According to the agreement, copies of which were made available to newsmen, a task force is to be set up to consider and, in appropriate cases, implement issues that led to the strike by resident doctors.

The agreement stipulates that the task force, which shall comprise eight people, with the minister of health as chairman, will be empowered to take appropriate measures to achieve its objectives, particularly the procurement of drugs and medical materials within one month. Under the agreement, the government pledged to provide all necessary facilities to ensure that the task force achieved its objectives. The NMA and the Federal Military Government agreed that no member of the association would be "disciplined or victimised in any way on account of the industrial action."

In the agreement, the inter-ministerial committee noted the request and demands of the NMA that no less than 5 per cent of the national budget be devoted to the health sector from 1985. The NMA is also requesting that the allocation for emergency bulk purchase of drugs and medical materials be raised from 3 million to 10 million naira. The NMA also wants the N25 million subvention recently approved for teaching hospitals by the government to be raised to N50 million.

The agreement was signed on behalf of the Federal Military Government by Brigadier Solomon Omojokun, the minister of employment, labour and productivity; Group Captain Samson Omeroah, minister of information, social development, youth, sports and culture; and the permanent secretaries of the ministries. The national president of NMA, Dr Thompson Akpabio; the first vice-president, Dr Beko Ransome-Kuti; and Dr J.T.N. Ajakpo, the second vice-president, signed for the association.

Government Recruiting Medical Doctors

AB180754 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] All National Youth Service Corps [NYSC] doctors who were recently recruited by the Federal Civil Service Commission have been advised to report immediately for work. The affected corps member doctors whose names were published in the dailies last week are to report at the office of the permanent secretary, Federal Ministry of Health, 9th floor, New Secretariat, Ikoyi. All NYSC doctors who were interviewed but whose names did not appear in the national dailies should report for documentation at the office of the commission, 11th floor, Federal Secretariat, Ikoyi, on Thursday the 20th of this month. They will later call at the Federal Ministry of Health for deployment. All other qualified doctors, consultants and specialists in the country should also report at the office of the commission on the 12th floor for interview on Thursday, at 0900. They are required to produce their credentials and two passport photographs.

An official statement in Lagos yesterday explained that the Federal Military Government was embarking on the recruitment of doctors to ensure effective health care delivery program.

Clergyman Suspended For Remarks on Demolition

AB141050 Lagos NAN in English 0915 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Text] Bauchi, Sept. 13 (NAN) — The Rev Yakubu Abubakar of the Evangelical Church of West Africa (ECWA), Bauchi, has been suspended indefinitely by the state branch of the Christian Association of Nigeria for "making unguarded statements." The association said in a statement in Bauchi today that Rev Abubakar's public utterances on the "demolition of Christian

churches in the state capital" was "embarrassing and amounted to sabotage." The association did not, however, mention the statement made by Rev Abubakar.

The statement, signed by the association's chairman, Pastor Umaru Hassan, said that letters had already been written to the state governor, Brig Sani Sami, on the demolition. It claimed that the Assemblies of God's Church and parts of the Sisters' Convent at St John Catholic Church in Bauchi were affected by the demolition exercise.

Briefs

New Envoys' Credentials — Lagos, Sept 14 (NAN) — Three newly accredited envoys to Nigeria today presented their letters of credence to the head of state, Maj General Muhammadu Buhari. The new envoys are Mr Ashok Ray (India), Mr Saleh Zaimi (Morocco), and Mr Tran Xuan Man of the Socialist People's Republic of Vietnam. [Excerpt] [*Lagos NAN in English 1130 GMT 15 Sep 84 AB*]

ANGOLA

Dos Santos Views Ties With France; Namibia Problem

PM131416 Paris LE MONDE in French 13 Sep 84 p 4

[Interview with President Eduardo Dos Santos by Andre Fontaine in Paris; date not given]

[Text] (Fontaine) Mr President, your visit to France will be followed by a visit to Italy and Spain. What is the principal aim of this trip?

(Dos Santos) To discuss the development of bilateral cooperation and problems connected with the situation in Africa.

(Fontaine) So let us talk first about cooperation between Angola and France. Are you happy with the scale that it has reached?

(Dos Santos) During my visit to France in October 1981 we set out the guidelines for the development of this cooperation and we are happy with the results in several fields. We have just been examining some new projects, including electricity, oil, personnel training, and the financing of heavy plant using the new technologies.

(Fontaine) Angola has been facing a relatively difficult economic situation. Does your debt burden allow you to attract further foreign investments?

(Dos Santos) Of course the economic situation is difficult, since Angola has had to cope since independence with a climate of violence encouraged from abroad and the sabotaging of its economic installations. Like any other country, it has a foreign debt, but not on such a scale as to jeopardize its relations with Western countries.

Withdrawal of South African Troops

(Fontaine) You just referred to the fighting taking place on your territory. In February an accord was reached in Lusaka, envisaging the South African troops' withdrawal. But Pretoria still has two battalions on your soil. Can this situation be resolved sooner or later?

(Dos Santos) The situation is indeed still tense and serious. In Lusaka it was envisaged that the South African forces would withdraw before 30 March. None of the pretexts put forward by Pretoria for maintaining its troops is valid, because Angola is an independent and sovereign country. It is an aggression, an illegal occupation of part of our national territory, in contravention of all rules of international law.

Since 1978 Angola has put forward several proposals for a peaceful solution of the problems of Southern Africa as a whole and Namibia in particular. Recently we have put forward a number of proposals which demonstrate our good will. If they are accepted by South Africa and the United States, we can resolve the present situation.

As you know, Angola and Cuba defined the conditions for a withdrawal of Cuban forces in a joint declaration:

1. The withdrawal of the South African forces from A

2. Namibia's independence in accordance with the terms of UN Security Council Resolution 435;

3. A halt to Pretoria and its allies' backing for the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] armed ga

We are willing to implement the principles embodied in the Angolan-Cuban joint declaration in a flexible manner.

(Fontaine) Would it be possible, for instance, to resolve the Namibian issue separately? Are the South Africans not strengthening their foothold, suggesting that negotiation prospects are receding rather than improving?

(Dos Santos) There are at present two battalions, but at moments of tension this number could rise to five. Nevertheless, the dialogue is continuing, because since January there has been no more fighting between our Angolan forces and those of South Africa. South Africa explains the presence of its troops in terms of the growth of South-West African People's Organization [SWAPO] military activity in Namibia. But the Lusaka Accord between Luanda and Pretoria concerns only Angolan territory, not Namibia. The solution of that problem concerns South Africa and SWAPO.

When we talk about flexibility we mean that we are willing to negotiate an accord that can best satisfy Angola's interests, guarantee respect of its sovereignty and territorial integrity, and guarantee the security of its borders, while at the same time resolving the problems of Namibia, on the basis of Resolution 435.

But it goes without saying that only an internationally accepted, definitive solution of the Namibian problem can constitute a guarantee of peace and stability for Angola.

Clear Conditions

(Fontaine) It is difficult to imagine how a government such as Pretoria's, which has a considerable military and economic strength, could consent to an accord with any of its neighbors without that neighbor's having first granted it a major advantage. Do you not believe that, this being so, only a compromise on the status of Namibia could ultimately lead to a broader agreement between Angola and South Africa?

(Dos Santos) From my viewpoint, the conditions for the solution of the Namibian problem are very clear. It will constitute a major step toward lessening the great tension that exists in Southern Africa because of the apartheid regime.

(Fontaine) However, there is no sign that South Africa is about to abandon the apartheid regime.

(Dos Santos) Indeed. That is no reason not to condemn apartheid — a crime against humanity based on discrimination relating entirely to the racial characteristics of the large majority of South African citizens. We know that there is another South Africa, and that the South African Government itself is experiencing difficulties, since it is unable to prevent a struggle that has become very extensive, involving not only the blacks but all South

African citizens opposed to social injustice and racial discrimination.

(Fontaine) A few months ago Mozambique reached an accord with South Africa. Do you approve of it?

(Dos Santos) That accord falls within the sovereignty of the Mozambique Government. It is not for us to judge whether or not it serves the Mozambique peoples' interests. Our hope is that South Africa will scrupulously honor the undertaking. As far as our own situation is concerned, it is very different from Mozambique's.

U.S. Role

(Fontaine) The United States, especially its assistant secretary of state for African affairs, is very active in the quest for a solution to the Namibian problem. How do you assess its role in this region? Do you envisage a chance of normalizing your relations with it?

(Dos Santos) The United States has monopolized the conduct of discussions aimed at establishing measures capable of leading to the implementation of Resolution 435. It belonged to the so-called "contact group," which has completed its task, since all discussions on means of implementing that resolution have succeeded thanks to the UN secretary general. Meanwhile, however, the United States has tried to introduce a connection, a "linkage," as it calls it, between the presence of Cuban troops in Angola and Namibian independence, and it is obvious that what it is advocating in this matter is not in Angola's or Namibia's interests but in its own strategic interests. The linkage thus established — which has nothing to do with Resolution 435 — is the main reason for the delay in implementing the resolution.

(Fontaine) How do you assess France's role in the Namibian issue and in Southern African affairs as a whole?

(Dos Santos) France has played, and still plays, a major role in the quest for a solution to the Namibian problem. It was the only country within the "contact group" to oppose the U.S. idea of "linkage." It was France that publicly explained why the group should suspend its activities, since all the problems entrusted to it had been virtually resolved. Last, it adopted a public stance in favor of the just demands of the Namibian people and all African peoples, who are unanimous on the need to implement Resolution 435 without delay.

(Fontaine) With regard to UNITA, how much territory does it now really control? Do you have the impression that the military situation is turning in the government's favor?

(Dos Santos) As you know, UNITA is a tool of South Africa.

(Fontaine) With a strong ethnic base....

(Dos Santos) UNITA was once a tool of the Portuguese secret police and of the Portuguese colonial armed forces. Its principal base is Namibia, illegally occupied by South Africa. And it is in the provinces close to Namibia that UNITA has established itself. From that area it launches acts of terrorism and sabotage against Angolan settlements and villages with massive support from South Africa — in weapons, ammunition, transport, and experts — and also with the cooperation of Portuguese officers who served during the colonial war against Angola and who subsequently retired to Namibia and South Africa after independence.

UNITA does not represent an ethnic group. It mobilizes peasants by force, taking them to South Africa and Namibia, where they undergo military training. Using mendacious propaganda based on hostility to the USSR and Cuba, which exploits their low level of education, awareness, and knowledge, the majority of these people are fooled by UNITA and fail to recognize the reality of the Angolan situation.

There is no ethnic problem in Angola. Our government comprises members from the various regions of the country.

(Fontaine) How did you assess the fact that Czechoslovakia negotiated a release of hostages directly with Savimbi?

(Dos Santos) The Czechoslovak Government explained to us that it was acting solely out of humanitarian motives with a view to securing the release of the civilian personnel seized by UNITA in Angola.

(Fontaine) In your opinion, what is UNITA's present strength?

(Dos Santos) We do not know....

(Fontaine) But you must have some idea....

(Dos Santos) We know that it consists of groups of bandits trained in South Africa and based mainly in Cuando-Cubango Province, who commit acts of terrorism from time to time and attack economic installations, but we have no idea of the scale of those forces.

(Fontaine) In your opinion, is UNITA losing ground or is the situation static?

(Dos Santos) Recently UNITA has only lost ground. It is enough to follow its propaganda. In 1980 it gave as its objective Menongue, which is the capital of Cuando-Cubango province, with Luanda as its ultimate destination. They have not reached Menongue, let alone Luanda. In 1983 UNITA announced its intention of seizing power in Luanda. Let it tell us know what is that capital of the country that it controls. I mean not our capital but one single major city.

We cannot fail to acknowledge that there are military actions: they are obvious, but the scale attributed to them abroad does not represent the real facts. We control national territory from Cabinda to Cunene, apart from the places I have mentioned. That is what enables us to make the government and the economy work, and to develop such a volume of trade with the West and with the Eastern bloc countries. Examine the figures for cooperation with France and you will gain some idea of the scale of these commercial transactions: it reflects the existence of a government which effectively exercises its power in several areas of national territory and enables Angola to honor its commitments.

Dos Santos Interview Discusses Spain, Southern Africa

MB161223 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1225 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Recorded Interview given by President Jose Eduardo dos Santos to newsmen in Madrid on 14 September — questions given by announcer]

[Text] [Announcer] A journalist of the EFE press agency asked to know about the significance to Angola of relations with a country like Spain, which shortly expects to be admitted to the EEC.

[Dos Santos] Obviously, Spain's decision to join the EEC is a sovereign decision. Angola has been promoting its relations with European countries within the framework of bilateral relations. Although we are participating in the discussion of a third Lome Convention, we are not yet an integral part of that convention. Our adherence to that body will be decided after we know the terms of that convention. Thus, we shall continue to work with Spain toward strengthening bilateral relations, which I think will not harm our interests.

[Announcer] A journalist of Spanish television asked the Angolan head of state what the necessary conditions for the withdrawal of the Cuban internationalist troops from Angola were and what his opinion of the recent treaty between Libya and Morocco was.

[Dos Santos] As I stated yesterday in a speech I made at a dinner party, we feel that the presence of the South African forces in southern Angola and the illegal occupation of Namibia constitute a threat. As long as this threat is not removed, as long as UN Security Council Resolution 435 is not applied in order to secure Namibia's independence, and as long as South Africa's support for the armed UNITA gangs, who also use the illegally occupied territory of Namibia to carry out military operations against Angola, is not stopped, the withdrawal of the Cuban forces from Angola will not begin.

You journalists know that there is a joint declaration signed by the governments of Angola and Cuba establishing those conditions that I have just mentioned as essential for the beginning of the gradual withdrawal of the Cuban forces from Angola.

As for the agreement between Morocco and Libya, I must say that we followed with a great of deal of concern the evolution of the situation in Northern Africa, particularly after the signing of the agreement. It is a zone which is characterized by a constant escalation of tension over the situation in Western Sahara, which is a territory which is still under Moroccan occupation, and we would like to see moves being undertaken toward removing the tension. Nothing should be done to complicate a situation which is already extremely difficult.

[Announcer] An INTERPRESS journalist asked when Angola would open an embassy in Madrid. He also asked if Angola thinks that Europe can play a meaningful role in Africa.

[Dos Santos] I would like to say that Angola already has an ambassador accredited to the Spanish Government. The ambassador does not reside in Spain. He resides in a country which is close to Spain. Naturally, the establishment of services here which will support the work and the activities of the ambassador will be carried out shortly. Regarding Europe's role in the development of Africa, we would like to say that European countries can play an important role in the economic and social development of Africa. As most of them had relations with African countries during the colonial era, they know the economic problems of these countries. I have some reservations.

As various kinds of activities were established through history between African and European countries, there is an indispensable condition; in this period of independence and formation of new African nations, cooperation should be established between African and European countries on a basis of equality, justice, and mutual benefit. This means that it will therefore be necessary to establish a legal framework to enhance mutual interests through the dynamics of economic complementarity.

[Announcer] A representative of the Portuguese News Agency asked the Angolan head of state whether the fact that he has only now decided to visit some countries in Western Europe had any official significance. He also asked if the Angolan Government had considered the possibility of ever holding talks with the UNITA puppet group.

[Dos Santos] As for the first part of your question, I would like to say that there was no special reason for my tour to a number of Western European countries. Angola maintains normal relations with various European countries. It has a growing cooperation with France, Italy, and now also with Spain. Thus, this is a visit within the framework of efforts for promoting relations of friendship and cooperation with France, Italy, and now Spain.

As for the second part of your question, I must say that any journalist should know that UNITA was created in 1966 by the Portuguese Police for the Control of Foreigners and Defense of the State, PIDE and was used by the Portuguese colonial army to annihilate the MPLA freedom fighters, the MPLA guerrillas who were waging the national liberation armed struggle.

With the proclamation of independence and, naturally, the defeat of Portuguese colonialism, UNITA became South Africa's instrument to destabilize our military, economic, and social situation. So, therefore, there is no reason of any kind for the legitimate Angolan Government to establish a dialogue or negotiations with a group of sellouts who have betrayed their fatherland.

[Announcer] A [word indistinct] journalist asked President Jose Eduardo dos Santos about the state of relations with Portugal. The journalist also asked about the UNITA gang's military strength.

[Dos Santos] On our relations with Portugal, I made statements on this while I was in France and Italy. I discussed the issue of relations in a political, economic, and trade context. I said that relations in the economic and trade fields are being promoted without problems. These relations are normal. However, there are still some difficulties in the political field because some positions that we regard as unjust are being taken by some Portuguese politicians. However, this does not mean that the

state of current relations between Portugual and Angola cannot be promoted in a positive sense in the future.

As for UNITA's strength, in order to make it very clear, I would like to say that a strip of Angolan land has been occupied by South Africa since 1981. I also want to say that since August 1981, there has been close coordination or a link between the UNITA armed gangs and the aggressive military activity carried out by South Africa. At this moment, UNITA is launching its actions from a zone in southeastern Angola on the border between Cuando Cubango Province and Namibia. Trucks carrying supplies from South Africa pass through that area transporting arms, ammunition, and all kind of military equipment and also men who are trained in South Africa by South African officers.

[Announcer] A journalist asked about the process of negotiations between SWAPO and South Africa on Namibia and Angola's role in the effort to settle the conflict.

[Dos Santos] Unfortunately I must say that discussions between SWAPO and South Africa, which were held less than a month ago in Cape Verde, failed. Diplomatic moves are continuing in order to make South Africa and SWAPO return to the negotiating table to conclude an agreement on ceasing military hostilities and a date for applying UN Security Council Resolution 435 on the independence of Namibia. So, therefore, Angola's role must be looked at in the framework of encouraging diplomatic initiatives with a view to securing peace for Southern Africa and a settlement in the first place of the Namibian problem. In this context, we have established discussions not only with South Africa directly, but also with the U.S. Government.

LESOTHO

High Commissioner Says RSA Holding Up Weapons

MB181213 Maseru Domestic Service in English
1130 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] The Lesotho high commissioner in London, Mr O.T. Sefako, is reported to have told the British publication, *JANE'S DEFENCE WEEKLY*, that South Africa has refused to allow Lesotho to take delivery of a large quantity of military equipment until Lesotho signed a security agreement. Mr Sefako is reported to have said that some equipment has been held in South Africa since October 1982. Included are armored patrol cars from France, a Bell helicopter and spare parts from Italy, Bren guns, 9-mm pistols and ammunition from the United Kingdom, and spare magazines for FN rifles from Belgium.

Mr Sefako is said to have told the publication that whenever Lesotho raised the matter of the equipment with its neighbor, Lesotho has been repeatedly told that equipment would be released only after it has signed a security agreement.

Basotho Reportedly Forced to Join BDA

MB190648 Maseru Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 19 Sep 84

[Text] Informed sources told the Lesotho News Agency yesterday that plans are afoot to force Basotho to join the Basotho Democratic Alliance [BDA] by asking them produce BDA membership cards when they cross into the Republic of South Africa. The reports indicate that the Basotho citizens will be asked to produce, in addition to their passports, membership cards to indicate their support of the BDA leader, Mr Charles Dube Molapo. It is further reported that this arrangement is the latest that has been agreed upon between Mr Molapo and certain agents in South Africa in preparation for the forthcoming general election.

MOZAMBIQUE

10 'Armed Bandits' Reported Killed in Govuro

MB181148 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1030 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Excerpt] In the past few days in Inhambane Province, the Mozambique Armed Forces killed 10 armed bandits, including 3 ringleaders, and captured 3 majubas [collaborators] in an area of Govuro District. In the same operation, our forces released a number of civilians who were forced to live with the criminals and recovered an assortment of goods stolen from the residents.

In Tete Province, and in the framework of the military offensive for the total elimination of armed bandits in the country, our Armed Forces last month killed an armed bandit group in (Gauere), (Cassube) area, of Macanga District. An assortment of war materiel, including mortar shells, were found on the battleground.

'Bandit' Camps Destroyed in Sofala Province

MB190656 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
0400 GMT 19 Sep 84

[Text] On 2 and 3 September the Mozambique Armed Forces-FPLM destroyed two armed bandit camps in Bapai and Manave, Machanga District of Sofala Province. After the destruction of the camps the Mozambique Armed Forces-FPLM released more than 100 people who had been forced to live with the bandits.

In Manave itself the Mozambique Armed Forces killed 7 armed bandits and captured 2 bazooka rockets, 8 mortar shells, and 22 magazines. Reports from Beira say that the Mozambique Armed Forces stationed in Machanga launched those operations to celebrate 25 September.

Soviet Envoy Presents Books to National Library

MB180626 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
0400 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] Yuriy Sepelev, Soviet ambassador to Mozambique, yesterday gave about 1,200 assorted books to the Mozambique National Library. The books, which include some 500 different

titles, were delivered to (Joaquim Chigogurro), national director of libraries, during a ceremony which was also attended by Luis Bernardo Hanwana, secretary of state for culture.

In an impromptu speech, Yuriy Sepelev said that the books were displayed at the Maputo International Trade Fair. He added that other items also displayed at the show will soon be delivered to the Mozambican authorities for local consumption in a gesture of solidarity with the Mozambican people who are presently in a very difficult historical moment.

In reply, Luis Bernardo Honwana thanked the gesture of the Soviet Embassy, describing it as a sign of deep understanding of the problems faced by the country. The books given by the Soviet ambassador deal mainly with sociopolitical and natural sciences subjects. Prior to this gift, the Mozambique National Library had about 200,000 books which were consulted by about 2,500 readers every month, the national director of libraries said.

Machel Discusses Difficulties at OTM Ceremony

MB171650 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1500 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Text] President Samora Machel received in Maputo this afternoon membership card No 1 from the Mozambican Workers Organization [OTM]. The card was presented by the OTM secretary general in the presence of Central Council members and other cadres of the organization. On the same occasion the Mozambican head of state received the OTM banner and its badge.

President Samora Machel said on the occasion: We are celebrating the passage of 20 years since the Mozambican man took up arms and demanded liberty. It was a great period when the Mozambican man wrote history with his own blood and broke the chains of slavery.

Referring to the present difficulties facing our country, President Samora Machel stressed that we were already poor but only became aware of it after independence, when we had to organize our people's life and the national economy. With regard to the struggle against backwardness and the fight against the armed bandits, President Machel pointed out that a Mozambican does not fight to lose, and the more time the struggle takes, the more we shall emerge victorious and more convinced to build socialism.

Machel Addresses OTM Leaders

MB180556 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1800 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Speech by President Samora Machel at a reception of members of the Mozambican Workers Organization Central Council in Maputo on 17 September — recorded]

[Excerpts] We are lucky to be the sons of peaceful, fighting, hardworking, and above all very intelligent people. Our intelligence is not the property of only one man. It is the property of the entire people. That is why we find from the Rovuma River to the Maputo River people with genius and brilliance. When there is a need, they make sacrifices; they sacrifice their lives.

We are celebrating now 20 years of our highest, most historic, and most decisive period; a period when the Mozambican man took up arms, demanding only the right to be a Mozambican and not a foreigner in his own fatherland, and for this he gave his blood. This was a great period, a period when the Mozambican man wrote history with his own blood and wrote the most beautiful chapters with his own sweat. We are proud of this period — the period when the Mozambican man broke the chains of slavery, humiliation, and social, cultural, economic, and racial discrimination.

The Mozambican man fought to become what he is today. We are poor but the poverty did not begin with the proclamation of independence. We only became aware that we were poor when we proclaimed independence because it was from the proclamation of independence that we have to organize the life of the Mozambican people and the Mozambican economy.

There is one quality which is particular to the Mozambican man: the knowledge to launch a struggle at the right moment, the knowledge to organize victory. That is why the Mozambican man is continuously carrying with him the certainty of victory. The Mozambican man does not fight to lose. [applause] The struggle may take time but the more time the struggle takes, the more consolidated becomes our conviction, the more consolidated becomes our unity, the more consolidated becomes our solidarity, and the more consolidated becomes our class awareness. The war for the national liberation against colonialism lasted 10 years. The Rhodesian aggression lasted 5 years. The war against the armed bandits has also been going on for 5 years. We emerge victorious, stronger, and more united and more convinced to build socialism in the People's Republic of Mozambique. [applause]

In every war we emerge victorious with greater sense of love for our women and children, with greater love for our fatherland. This means we emerge with more fervent and revolutionary patriotism. That is why our difficulties are our lessons and our schools. And the armed bandits are negative teachers. There are people who clearly do not understand the meaning of the word enemy. We defined the enemy sometimes mainly in terms of race. We would say: Only whites are our enemies. We defined the enemy in terms of tribes. But the armed bandits have helped us to clarify the meaning of the word enemy. Our enemy does not necessarily need to be white or to be of this or that tribe or race. The class enemy of every worker of the world is this kind of war we are waging in the People's Republic of Mozambique. But you shall win. [applause]

The days for the armed bandits are already numbered. We are crushing them. I do not know whether you have had the opportunity to see the armed bandits, hundreds of them with their equipment. We did not want to present them to the public. Our people would have strangled some of them and with every right because some of you here are survivors of these armed bandits. They sowed grief, misfortune, and retrogression.

Sofala Provincial Leader Urges General Offensive

MB181948 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] A member of the Frelimo Party Political Bureau and leader of Sofala Province said that it was necessary to immediately pursue a permanent general offensive within the province so as to bring about peace, which will allow the realization of the production plans for 1985. Marcelino dos Santos was speaking in Beira yesterday, at the closing of the second of the Frelimo Party provincial committee in Sofala.

Speaking afterwards, during a reception in honor of the participants at the session, the leader of Sofala Province praised the engagement of the residents of the province in the struggle against the armed bandits, which permitted to a certain extent an improvement in the peasants' work and living conditions in areas previously affected by the actions of these criminals.

NAMABIA

13 SWAPO Members Killed in Week's Clashes

MB190704 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 19 Sep 84

[Text] SAPA reports that the South-West Africa Territory Force has announced in Windhoek that in a number of clashes in the operational area in the past week, security forces have killed 13 SWAPO infiltrators. Security forces suffered no casualties. A total of 476 SWAPO members have been killed by the security forces in South-West Africa since the beginning of the year.

SOUTH AFRICA

Miners' Union Ends Strike, Accepts New Offer

MB181418 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1300 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] South Africa's first legal strike by black workers on gold mines has ended. The National Union Mineworkers [NUM] has accepted the latest wage offer from the Chamber of Mines, and the chamber and the union have issued a joint statement declaring the end of their dispute, which led to about 40,000 workers refusing to go underground yesterday. In the ensuing conflict with police and mine security personnel hundreds of people were injured. Two are reported to be in a very serious condition.

Now members of the NUM employed on President Brand, Holdings, Saaiplaas, and Welkom Divisions of Western Holdings, Elandsrand, and the East and West Divisions of Vaal Reefs have accepted the restructured offer from the chamber, which includes leave allowances for unskilled workers of 50 percent of their monthly salary. The union is now considering legal action against the police for attacks on its members at the Free State mines, where the situation is still very tense.

Gold Miners, Police Clash

MB181932 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1900 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] South African police have confirmed reports that miners have been killed in clashes with police at the Western Areas gold mine. A mine management spokesperson and a mineworker's union official have confirmed that there have been serious casualties, but have not elaborated.

The mine spokesperson says extensive damage was caused to hostel facilities at one of the divisions of the Western Transvaal mine. He has added that there was an almost total work stoppage today. The mine was not one of those involved in a near-strike by National Union of Mineworkers members that was averted after the union accepted a last minute management offer.

Six Miners Reported Killed

MB190625 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 19 Sep 84

[Text] Several mine workers are reported to have been killed at Waterpan near Westonaria after unrest and violence spead to several mines in the Transvaal yesterday. Police told our Pretoria news staff that members of the force used tearsmoke, rubber bullets, and birdshot to disperse arsonists and stone throwers. Several policement and mine workers were injured. Police have been unable to give any figures, but SAPA reports that at least six mine workers were shot dead. At a mine near Springs workers looted a warehouse and stoned the police.

Meanwhile, seven mine workers have been arrested for public violence at Vaal Reefs in the Western Transvaal. The unrest followed clashes between mine workers and police on Monday which left more than a hundred injured at Durban Deep near Roodeport and more than 250 workers injured at Anglo-American Mines near Welkom. The violence occured as a wave of unofficial strike action swept across the mining industry, coinciding with the country's first legal strike by black workers, which ended in settlement yesterday.

Police Release Casualty Figures

MB190732 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0700 GMT 19 Sep 84

[Text] Police have released casualty figures of yesterday's bloody confrontation between police and Transvaal miners. Police public relations directorate official Lieutenant Henry (Beck) says seven miners were killed in the unrest at the Westonaria's gold mine in the western Traansvaal:

[Begin (Beck) recording] At this stage it stands at 7 dead and 89 injured. We want to stress, though, that the deaths and the injuries have not all necessarily been caused by police action. The injuries and the deaths will still be investigated and the causes thereof. [End recording]

Meanwhile, authorities say the situation at the Westonaria's mine is quiet this morning. Police and Johannesburg Consoli-

dated Investments, which operates the mine, say no further incidents of violence have occured after yesterday's 6-hour clash between police and wildcat strikers. A gold mine official, however, says no one is reporting for work this morning. An Anglo-American Corporation official said this morning that the situation at all gold mines administered by the company remains peaceful.

State President Botha Delivers Inaugural Address

MB141413 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0945 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Speech by State President P.W. Botha on his inauguration at Grand Parade, Cape Town — live]

[Text] Ministers, heads of state of other countries, excellencies, personal friends from other countries who came here for this specific occasion, distinguished guests, fellow South Africans.

[Changes to Afrikaans] Countrymen, from Table Mountain, as from other mountaintops in our country, one has a vision of the variety of South African life, but also of the vast capacity of this fatherland to accomodate its rich variety. Our country is blessed with a diversity in nature, soil, vegetation, mineral wealth, and climate. In the same way, South Africa is endowed with a multiplicity of population communities.

The arrival of Jan van Riebeeck three centuries ago was an event from which a new civilization was born here, which would meet with other population communities and their civilizations after decades to form one part of the dispensation in the plans of our Creator. This led to the modern state in which today we have the privilege of living. Against the background of such circumstances, we realize only too well that of which Table Mountain is a silent witness. Then we realize that for a brief time in a long process we are part of a dispensation plan. The individual peoples, languages, and cultural groups that have to be kept in balance by us should not be a burden to us. Rather, we should accept the opportunity in the course of our lives to be able to make our contribution that much more meaningful.

Our constitution attests to this truth in its preamble, but it also sets common aims for us. Those who would deny the realities of our land or who wish to change it by violence, are collaborating with chaos and disaster. Breaking things down is not an art. It does not require any special ability other than the ability to destroy. And what follows is confortless despair and sorrow. To build and to build together, each in his own place, is the challenge for which we came into being. There is a built-in order and balance in the creation. So, too, in the case of South Africa, there should also be order and balance.

[English] Our national anthem, our national flag, our national coat of arms, remind us of our diversity, but also of the strength which is possible if that diversity is united by common devotion and patriotism. In the economic field, we have set ourselves the goal to strive towards economic strength and prosperity as well as the material welfare of all our peoples. We do not stand for a division of wealth but for the creation of conditions for the proper distribution of wealth. We do so by means of training, encouragement of private initiative, and effective competition. We aim at a balanced economy also by regional development and decentralization. We know that our stability and security are dependent on a sound economy.

In the preamble to our constitution, we commit ourselves to uphold the independence of our judiciary and the equality of all under the law. We pledge ourselves to strive towards the protection of the principles of human dignity, liberty, and property of all in our midst. We vow to uphold and defend Christian values and civilized norms as well as freedom of faith and worship. In other words, our state must maintain a particular character. That character can only be built on orderly government and respect for our different population groups and peoples, their traditions, their hopes, and their ideals. Self-respect is a prerequisite for mutual respect. I shall always remember that one can only be true to others if you are able to remain true to yourself.

This morning I took an oath in your presence, and in the name of God, to uphold these principles enshrined in our constitution. I appeal to all South Africans to support me in this endeavor.

[Afrikaans] In the history of the world, there has never been a country or a people who could hold fast to the belief or hope that the world around them could forever remain unchanged. In this world which is continually developing and is subject to an interaction of influencing factors — material, scientific, technological, spiritual, economic, social, and political — a country develops, as does its citizenry. Life itself is a process of growing and renewal, but through hate and the wounds that sprout from hate, the process of growth and renewal suffers. In the historic process we are presently living through, great opportunities and challenges are emerging. If we accept these wisely and in a timely manner, they will open the road ahead to development in the future. South Africa faces such an opportunity.

We seek great economic opportunities, for all and the chance for everyone to reap according to his own contribution. This means that for each one who has the ability and willingness to prepare himself for the future, he should be given the opportunity to do so.

It is also our deepest conviction that stability, peace, and cooperation are the first requirements for true economic and social advancement for the people of this country. This process of cooperation does not come about overnight. It is something which has to be striven for with patience, determination, and understanding. Sometimes the process is painful and frustrating, but for South Africa, more so than for countries with homogeneous populations, there is no alternative. Stability and progress cannot be limited to individual districts or provinces. The advancement of these goals in all Southern Africa will be the advantage of each individual country and community. The future of the Republic of South Africa does not lie only in a few cities. It lies also in the better utilization of its underdeveloped areas. We must also realize that our contributions outside our borders are directly linked to the degree of success that we achieve in our own country.

Our rank in the international community must be achieved by our own ability to work and our integrity as well as by our independent action as a major regional power. A great opportu-

nity, but also one of the severest tests this country has ever experienced, lies on our doorstep. We shall have to prove that we can listen to each other, respect each other's interests, and govern in the interests of all. Our future in this country will be destroyed or defended by ourselves. Negotiations and consultation are characteristics of good government, but good government cannot be conducted without final decisions.

The new dispensation is the result of a protracted process of negotiation between the population groups concerned as well as democratic decisions. The success of this will depend not only on the creation of new structures of government, but also on the extent to which it finds a place in the hearts of the people, and the manner in which it will be practiced in their daily relations with one another. Tolerance and mutual respect must be the guidelines for all. Attitudes, and not just the institutions we have created, will be the final test.

Constitutionally, we stand on the threshold of a new day. It is an incontestable fact that the new constitution provides a wider foundation for participation in the process of political decision-making than has ever been the case in South Africa. This process is built on the principles of devolution of power and mutual consultation. We believe that through the meaningful devolution of power, the domination of one group by the other can be avoided and eliminated. At the same time, there are sufficient instuments for consultation on mutual affairs and duties. This concept of devolution of power does not only apply in the mutual relations between white and brown South Africans; it applies also to the relations with the various black peoples who, since 1960 in particular, have already traveled a great distance along the road of self-determination.

[English] As far as our black peoples are concerned, the constitution makes special provision for responsibilites of the South African state president. I commit myself and the government to seek and institutionalize formal cooperation with the independent and self-governing states. We have already advanced very far and are aware of the necessities to cooperate in finding a solution for the vital issue of citizenship and nationality.

As a country of minorities, with a rich and unique diversity of peoples, nationalities, cultures, and levels of economic development, the Republic of South Africa could not depend on constitutional blueprints which had been applied elsewhere in totally different circumstances. It had to come to terms with the realities of its own political environment and design a constitutional system to accomodate these unique circumstances. The position of the black communities living outside the national states is receiving the urgent attention of the special cabinet committee which I appointed last year.

Consultations are continuing across the broadest possible spectrum, and a great deal of work has been done, and is being done, to find suitable political mechanisms which will be acceptable to, and in the interests of, these communities. This work is being done within the context of the government's policy of devolution of power so as to bring government closer to the people. It is essential, however, that developments of this nature should be orderly, for without stability there can be no progress. I am therefore, as always, firmly committed to the maintenance of peace and security as the essential prerequisites for socioeconomic and political progress in this country and on our subcontinent in general.

Indeed, as we enter this new era in the political life of our country, I want to call on all South Africans of all persuasions to rededicate themselves to the Republic of South Africa and all its peoples. I want to call on all South Africans to commit themselves anew to the challenge which lies ahead for our country and all of us. No constitution can succeed unless the people whom it serves wish it to succeed. Our new constitution, which we are now implementing, requires the concerted efforts of men and women of goodwill if it is to serve its intended purpose. I have sufficient faith in the peoples of this country to know that they will travel the road which lies ahead with respect for the needs of others and with understanding for the needs of the Republic of South Africa and our subcontinent.

It is our intention and our purpose to create structures and mechanisms through which all the peoples who inhabit our uniquely constituted mosaic of nations and communities can live, as far as humanly possible, their lives in peace and harmony, free from want and free from the fear of hunger, disease, and poverty. In the pursuit of these objectives, we are responsible only to our common maker. I say this in all humility, for we are not so arrogant as to believe that we have all the answers to all the complex problems of our society. Nor do we wish to preach to other nations with other problems. We remain open to comment and advice from others provided that such comment and advice do not constitute interference in South Africa's internal affairs. We shall weigh such advice carefully, but in the final analysis we shall act as our own conscience dictates, because we, and not they, will be answerable to history for the consequences of our actions.

[Afrikaans] To the other countries of Southern Africa, we wish to extend the hand of friendship. Much has been achieved in the past few years, and there is an increasing understanding that we all have to work together in promoting our mutual interests and in striving for the welfare of our populations. If we can solve our own problems, the world at large will have to recognize that fact in their own interests and would then have to act in a more positive manner towards the Southern African region as a whole.

We strive for peace in Southern Africa, but it is not a peace through capitulation. It is a peace built on the mutual recognition of each other's sovereignty and freedom while serving the common interest. We realize only too well that peace can only be built on a basis of mutual respect and true freedom. Freedom and peace, however, cannot support themselves. Freedom and peace must be supported; therefore this state must see to it that it has the effective resources to protect freedom and peace.

[English] Since union, the head of the South African state was placed in a special position to our security forces. Let me say the present constitution reiterates that principle. It is my personal belief that our security forces are important symbols of South African nationhood and unity. They are in existence to uphold our sovereignty, freedom, and peace. We owe them loyalty and allegiance. You have entrusted me today with further and more onerous responsibilities than those of the office of prime minister,

which I held for almost 6 years from 1978. I shall strive to discharge my new responsibilities as state president to the utmost of my abilities, with the grace of God and the aid of all men of goodwill.

[Afrikaans] If I fail in this great responsibility, it will not be my choice, but if I succeed I will kneel thankfully before my creator. I thank you.

Botha Addresses Opening Session of Parliament

MB181153 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] The state president, Mr P.W. Botha, says the constitutional dispensation in which various population groups have a say without one group dominating another comes into effect today.

Mr Botha opened the first session of the eighth parliament of the Republic of South Africa in Cape Town this morning and in so doing addressed an historic joint session of members of the House of Assembly, the House of Representatives, and the House of Delegates. He said evolutionary and constitutional reform achieved significance today and that the new tricameral parliament was a milestone on the road of South Africa as union had been in 1910 and the advent of the republic in 1961.

Mr Botha said the results of efforts over many years to extend the democratic process meaningfully to the Coloreds and Indians with the maintenance of stability was being given concrete form today. The citizenship of these groups was being given greater meaning through giving the groups a say in the decisionmaking process.

The state president said South Africa was characterized not only by a rapid growing population but also by a plural economic structure which was reflected in the inequitable distribution of income, the disproportionate geographical distribution of economic activity, and unsatisfactory socioeconomic conditions under which part of the population lived. National goals, such as the promotion of economic growth and the creation of employment, regional development, and the socioeconomic upliftment of specific groups had to receive high priority.

Mr Botha said that against the background of peace initiatives in Southern Africa and the new constitution it could be expected that the country's enemies would go to greater extremes in the onslaught against South Africa. In the process, greater demands could be made of security, defense, and the maintenance of law and order.

Mr Botha said South Africa was surrounded by countries in a relatively early stage of economic development and their stability in the economic and political fields also effect economic growth and political stability in South Africa.

Referring to blacks outside the national states, Mr Botha said democratic and political participation should be further extended among them in order to ensure their advancement and to meet the demands for justice. He said politically black participation requires structures and processes other than those offered by the new constitution. He said the government would continue to create on the basis of consultation and negotiation a framework in which cooperation with black states, both independent and self-governing, could take place.

Furthermore, means would be found to enable black communities outside the states to participate in political decisionmaking in matters affecting their interests.

New Constitution Not Universal

MB181045 Umtata Capital in English 1000 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] The state president has opened the first joint session of South Africa's new tricameral parliament. In his opening address, Pieter Botha said the new constitution does not provide for all South Africans.

[Begin recording] The nature of our task is therefore such that it is neither simple nor capable of being solved instantly. Politically, black participation requires structures and processes other than those offered by this constituion. We therefore realize that the constitution, in terms of which this parliament has been created when you have been summoned here today, does not provide fully for the diversity which marks the South African population. [end recording]

Process of Political Change Underway in RSA

MB150817 Johannesburg International Service in English 1630 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Commentary: "Political Change in South Africa"]

[Text] An observer could hardly miss the symbolism of change at the inauguration of South Africa's first executive state president. As the country's first head of state in a new parliamentary dispensation, Mr P.W. Botha is also the first leader to have been put in office by the elected representatives of the white, Colored, and Indian communities. But what the ceremony on Cape Town's Parade emphasized particularly was not so much of this culmination of single constitutional steps as the ongoing theme of change that dominates South African politics these days.

For their part the newly elected Colored and Indian leaders have declared that the new constitutional system is only the beginning of further change. A similar assessment was made recently by an outsider, America's Assistant Secretary for Human Rights Mr Elliott Abrams. Giving a wide-ranging review to Congress of developments in South Africa, Mr Abrams concluded: There is a process of change underway with major implications for that system. That is a fact which objective observers cannot deny.

Indeed, reform is inherent in the South African political situation. The work that has been going on for decades to build a suitable constitutional mode for the country and its people will continue. That is forced on it by the realities that shape the very nature of South African society: On the one hand, the existence of numerous minorities, nations, and ethnic communities that are insistent on their right to control their own affairs, and on the

other an economic interdependence so strong that none can prosper unless through their combined efforts only.

The ultimate objective will remain that of achieving unity in diversity and securing a just and stable dispensation for the country. The new constitution is not the last word on South Africa's constitutional development. There is no finality in politics, and even the most ardent supporters of the new constitution regard it not as an ideal for all time but as a workable and equitable arrangement for meeting and reconciling legitimate but often conflicting expectations

What the constitution offers the people of goodwill in all communities is a unique instrument for further political progress, expanding the horizons of freedom and political participation in South Africa, unlocking potential for individual and community development, and strengthening the security of all. These remain the challenges facing the leaders of all the region's minorities, white, brown, and black. To meet the challenges, change, fundamental reform in constitutional, social, and economic affairs will of necessity continue to dominate the political stage.

Law Minister's Emergency Ban: Misuse of Power?

MB171717 Pretoria DIE TRANSVALER in Afrikaans 13 Sep 84 p 16

[Editorial: "What Are the Facts?"]

[Text] In a community where freedom of action and speech are seen as democratic rights, it is hard to swallow the latest emergency measures. Minister le Grange's ban on certain political meetings in a large number of magisterial districts will draw sharp criticism, not to mention the uproar it will cause overseas.

Is it a cannon being used against a flea? Is it a case of the minister misusing the extraordinary powers given to him by law? These questions will be debated for the next few days. As it is, Dr Van zyl Slabbert, the leader of the white opposition, has already expressed his concern to the minister over the drastic action he has taken.

What are the facts Mr le Grange has to deal with? The answer is closely related to events in the black residential townships of the Vaal Triangle and elsewhere last week. Arson, thieving on a massive scale, plundering, murder, and the shooting of people, such were the nasty elements of the township unrest. In addition, there was the defiance of the law and authority and the extremely difficult task of the police to maintain order — often with praiseworthy restraint against the worst provocation.

Estimates of the damage has been set at about 30 million rand. This time it will not be the white or other taxpayers who foot the bill, but the black community itself. When community values and private possessions are destroyed in this manner, the awful cost of this kind of unrest really becomes visible. It is the result of misplaced protest instigated by political activists behind the scenes under the pretext of increased rent charges.

By rights, the black community should itself deal with these fist-shaking instigators and plunderers. But then, it is the duty of the state to protect these communities. The implementation of that protection is dictated by local circumstances.

There is strong suspicion that the recent unrest was caused by political activists. The dubious actions of the United Democratic Front also figures in the suspicion. It is even possible that the ANC's henchmen have been active. The detention of people and the ban on meetings should be judged against this background.

If the measures are aimed at protecting the black communities from these evil elements in their midst, then we believe they are necessary. And, we believe the minister involved will shed more light on the issue soon. Indeed, it is vital that he does so.

High-Cost 'Carrot' May Buy Botswana Accord

MB160956 Johannesburg SUNDAY EXPRESS in English 16 Sep 84 p 1b

[By Tony Koenderman]

[Text] The South African Government is reportedly dangling a R390-million carrot in the form of backing for the planned Sua Pan soda ash plant to persuade Botswana to sign some form of political accord. But the current state of the world market suggests that the project could be a costly white elephant. And if it goes ahead, South African consumers could end up paying 50 percent more for soda ash, a vital ingredient in glass, uranium processing, steel manufacture, detergents, and paper.

Chemical industry boffins reckon that Botswana soda ash would have to sell at R300 a ton just be be marginally profitable — but world prices are so depressed at the moment that soda ash is being landed at Durban for R200 a ton freight on rail. Even with an expected R50 per ton increase in world prices next year, South African purchasers of soda ash would have to pay a hefty premium for the political advantage to be gained from setting the plant in Botswana.

Southern Africa — mainly South Africa — needs about 25,000 tons a year of soda ash. This demand is broken down by sector as follows: uranium processing and steel manufacture, 40 percent; glass manufacture, 35 percent; soap and detergent manufacture; 15 percent; pulp and paper manufacture, 10 percent.

Two soda ash projects are under consideration: a R350-million natural extraction plant based on the Sua Pan salt deposits, and a R230-million synthetic plant on the drawing boards at AECI, [African Explosives and Chemical Industries].

"But there's a world over-supply of 2.5-million tons of soda ash," said Mr Peter Francois, managing director of Chemical Services, one of the three companies which import most of South Africa's requirements. "Sixty percent of this surplus is in the United States. It's not a good time to come into the market. In the last three years, four synthetic soda ash plants in different parts of the world have closed down."

In general, the production cost of synthetic soda ash is about a third more than that of extracting natural soda ash. But the remoteness and hostile environment of the Sua Pan (180 km west

of Francistown) involve tremendous transport and other infrastructural costs which will make the project unviable without substantial protection. The Sua Pan deposit is enormous — with a virtually unlimited life. BP Botswana already has a R16-million (14-million) pilot plant operating there. The R390-million main scheme involved a plant producing 300,000 tons a year.

Both the potash (as fertiliser) and the salt are in theory marketable, but there is no great need for that much salt. The belief in the chemical industry is that the decision will be primarily a political, not an economic, one, and that the Botswana project will get the nod if an accord is signed. But the project won't go ahead unless South Africa commits itself to buy the output of the plant and to provide protection against imports. AECI has looked at a soda ash project on and off for the past 20-25 years, but it has never been economically viable without a high degree of protection in the form of tariffs or import control.

Dos Santos Allegations Directed at Wrong Party
MB140918 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 13 Sep 84

[Station commentary: "Angola and South Africa"]

[Text] The accusation by President dos Santos of Angola that South Africa has not kept its promise to withdraw its troops from Angola is one which is directed at the wrong party. There are several factors which have made it impossible for South Africa to withdraw its troops in terms of the Lusaka Accords, and in no way can the blame be placed on the republic.

The Lusaka agreement stipulates that South African forces are to be gradually withdrawn from Southern Angola, while at the same time Angola's FAPLA reestablish control over the vacated territory and restrain SWAPO from launching attacks on South-West Africa. So far, FAPLA forces have been unable to meet that commitment, and there are several reasons for this.

SWAPO is openly defying the terms of the Lusaka agreement. Not only has the joint monitoring commission reported increased SWAPO activity in southern Angola, but UNITA's leader, Dr Jonas Savimbi, said in a recent interview that his troops in the Cunene reported that SWAPO was becoming increasingly active and was regrouping its forces.

There is also another factor. The civil war in Angola is intensifying. FAPLA and Cuban forces — now reportedly assisted by North Korean troops — have their hands full trying to contain UNITA's 35,000 troops and, therefore, have little capacity for effectively controlling SWAPO's activities. The situation is proving extremely embarrassing for the MPLA government in that it illustrates the impotence of their FAPLA forces in controlling SWAPO. It shows that SWAPO is able to contemptously ignore direct instructions from the MPLA, and the fact that FAPLA is unable to impose its will on SWAPO is verification of the intensity of the war against UNITA.

The upshot of it all is that the agreement reached between South Africa and Angola is in jeopardy, and Pretoria cannot be expected to take kindly to attempts by President dos Santos to blame it on South African intransigence. The time has come for another objective examination of the situation by both sides. Should the agreement already reached fall by the wayside, it would be a great pity, more particualrly for the people of the war-torn Angola.

Transport Service Repairs Mozambique Locomotives
MB181818 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] The head of the South African Transport Services, Dr (Bart Grewe), says six of Mozambique's (Doenert) diesel locomotives are being repaired at the railways workshop in Bloemfontein in the Free State Province. He said in Johannesburg that the repairs are receiving urgent attention because the locomotives were urgently needed to transport goods from South Africa to Maputo.

The general manager of Mozambique's railways and harbors, Mr Ferreira Mendes, said the bilateral agreement between the two countries would be to South Africa's advantage. A delegation of senior railways officials from neighbouring Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Malawi, Zambia, Swaziland, and Zaire in South Africa is visiting several projects of the South African Transport Services today. The visit ends tomorrow. It is the first time in 24 years that senior railway officials from the seven countries have met for talks.

SWAZILAND

Prime Minister, Queen Regent Receive New Envoys
MB181900 Mbabane THE SWAZI OBSERVER in English 18 Sep 84 pp 1,5

[Excerpt] The Prime Minister Prince Bhekimpi yesterday welcomed three envoys from Botswana, Pakistan, and Belgium at the Cabinet Offices who came to present their credentials to the Queen Regent Ntombi. The envoys are Botswana High Commissioner, Mr Edward Rasebotse; Pakistan Ambassador, Mr Khadim Raja; and Belgian Ambassador, Mr Jean Michele Veranenan de Watervhet.

ZAMBIA

Botha's 'Deceitful Disposition' Condemned
MB180936 Lusaka TIMES of ZAMBIA in English 8 Sep p 1

[Editorial]

[Text] The violence that is taking place in South Africa should not be ignored by the international community, especially the West, as "just one of those protests" by a disaffected people. It proves the point which has been hammered so often by progressive African leaders in South Africa itself and in the Frontline States that entrenchment of apartheid is a time-bomb.

The riots in which more than 30 people have already died and many more have been injured are not futile, the boycott of classes in many areas of South Africa is a sure sign that there is nothing going right, and the low turn-out at the recent Indian and Coloured elections is a definite indication that the Boer laager is doomed to failure but at what price? And the person who should rue for all this is the architect of the triracial parliamentary system of whites, Coloureds and Indians, Prime Minister Pieter Botha.

Botha knows the cause of Sharpeville and that of Soweto in 1976, surely he also knows what has brought about the present riots, but he plays the ostrich and goes ahead not only with the condemned elections but more so he accepts to become executive president of a "domino establishment." What manner of person is he? Does he think the world is blind to his chicanery? At least Zambia is not.

Last Sunday President Kaunda was brutally frank when he met American Assistant Secretary of State Chester Crocker and commented on the South African leader's deceitful disposition of not matching words with deeds. Botha, for sure, has not kept his promises. In South Africa he promised to progressively end apartheid but the new constitution does not recognise the majority black population as part of the human race.

In Namibia he has publicly announced he wants the territory to be free but he and his cronies have not only been prevaricative but also lying at every turn when efforts to lead it to independence have been made. Botha instigated the joint monitoring commission with Angola, the Nkomati Accord with Mozambique, and the non-aggression pact with Swaziland which were seen as overtures to peaceful co-existence in the region.

But South African troops have not entirely pulled out of Angola, rebels are still being supported from Pretoria to harass the Maputo government, and Swaziland is suffering from South African enchroachments. Now that he is president of South Africa and power will go to his head he is likely to cause more problems not only in his own country but also the whole region.

Who will bell [as published] Botha then? The meeting of the Socialist International in Arusha, Tanzania, was emphatic in urging the West to play this role because it has the clout and leverage over Pretoria.

ZIMBABWE

Joint Cooperation Agreement Signed With Iraq

MB182027 Harare Domestic Service in English 1745 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] Zimbabwe and Iraq have signed the first session of their permanent joint commmission of cooperation in Harare. The agreement was signed by the deputy minister of finance, economic planning, and development, Comrade Moton Malianga; and Comrade Abu Talib 'Abd al-Muttalib al-Hashimi, who is the chairman of the joint commission. The agreement covers trade, economic, and technical cooperation. The two sides discussed cooperation in the fields of indistry, energy, mining, agriculture, information, and manpower training, among other issues. Comrade Malianga said cooperation between the two countries has gone a step further, and the two have agreed to strengthen their trade. The second session of the commission will be signed in Baghdad, Iraq, next year.